

Turkish, Pakistani leaders in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — The presidents of Turkey and Pakistan arrived Saturday for a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Sunday to discuss conflict in Afghanistan, the Gulf and the Israeli-occupied territories. Kuwait, chairman of the 46-member OIC, invited seven Islamic leaders to discuss developments since the Islamic summit of January 1987 and progress toward implementing its resolutions. Efforts by Islamabad and Kabul to end fighting in Afghanistan and secure the withdrawal of Soviet troops are expected to figure prominently in the talks, diplomats said. Ways to support the four-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories and to end the Iran-Iraq war will also be discussed. Pakistani President Mohammed Zia Ul Haq heads an OIC committee on science and technology while Turkish President Kenan Evren heads a committee on economic and trade cooperation. Leaders of Senegal, Morocco, the Maldives, Gabon and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) are also due to attend the meeting.

Jordan Times

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Easter holiday

The Jordan Times will not be published Monday, April 11, due to the Easter holiday Sunday. The next issue of the newspaper will appear Tuesday, April 12.

Cabinet approves accords with France

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, during a regular session Saturday chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, approved the minutes of a meeting of the joint Jordanian-French committee for cultural and technological cooperation held in Paris in March. The minutes envisage broadening bilateral relations in the fields of industry, education, health, energy, remote-sensing and animal and plant quarantine.

Cheysson disowns remarks on Israel

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) Commissioner Claude Cheysson has denied saying the West had committed a crime with the creation of the state of Israel. The EC commissioner said in a statement in Brussels that Cheysson categorically denied remarks attributed to him in a Reuters story from Tunis Thursday. Reuters' bureau in Tunis said that its report of Cheysson's remark Thursday was supported by the reporter's handwritten notes but it was seeking access to a tape recording of the news conference to make a further check on the accuracy of the report.

Arafat meets Soviet leaders

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat held talks here Saturday with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Speaking at a press conference, Arafat said the talks were held in complete mutual understanding. Arafat, who arrived in Moscow Thursday, did not give details of the talks but a Foreign Ministry official said the meeting with Gorbachev lasted about two hours.

Court seizes funds of Sadat's brother

CAIRO (R) — A special Egyptian court hearing corruption charges against Esmat Sadat, elder brother of the late President Anwar Sadat, ordered Saturday the confiscation of funds and property worth 17 million pounds (\$7.7 million). The decision by Cairo's Court of Ethics included property owned by Esmat Sadat's four wives, children and their husbands or wives. He told reporters after the ruling that he would appeal to a higher court against the decision.

S. Arabia denies sabotage report

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia denied Saturday that sabotage caused a fire at a \$2.8 billion plant in the kingdom's eastern province last month. The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted an official at the Saudi Petrochemical Company (Safat) plant in Jubail as saying there was no evidence that a fire which broke out in an ethylene storage tank was set off by explosives. "It was a normal industrial accident. If anything proves otherwise, it will be announced immediately," the source was quoted as saying.

INSIDE

- Clinic to help smokers quit opens soon, page 2
- Amman, Rabat become twin cities, page 3
- From Lebanon to Iran, page 4
- Elections highlight divisions in Iran, page 5
- Lebanon's pound weathers worsening economy, page 6
- Liverpool, Wimbledon set for F.A. Cup final, page 7
- U.S. conducts exercises in Panama Canal, page 8

Israeli troops go on rampage near Hebron, destroy Arab property

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops went on an overnight rampage in a village near Hebron in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and caused heavy damage to Arab property and shot and wounded at least two Palestinians Saturday.

Israeli Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, meanwhile said in a radio interview the killing of an Israeli girl in the West Bank village of Beita Wednesday may have been caused by a misunderstanding between villagers and the group the girl was with.

Doctors at Gaza's Ahli Hospital, said one of the protesters, 18-year-old Is'haq Hussein, had a gunshot wound in his chest. A friend who visited him told Reuters Hussein was shot by troops during a protest at the Al Burej Palestinian refugee camp, south of Gaza City.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said troops fired to disperse protesters who hurled stones at army patrols forced to stop after snail shells on the camp's roads punctured the tyres of their jeeps.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, troops wounded a Palestinian boy when they fired rubber bullets to break up a violent demonstration, reports said.

Eyewitnesses told Reuters that in Ramallah, soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse protesters who threw stones and blocked roads with blazing tyres after church services in the mainly Christian town.

Palestinian sources also reported clashes between troops and demonstrators in Bethlehem, Hebron and the Dheisheh

Palestinian refugee camp but the reports could not be independently confirmed as soldiers stopped journalists entering the area, declaring it a closed military zone.

The Palestinian sources who reported clashes in Bethlehem, Hebron and the Dheisheh camp said army bulldozers destroyed gardens, roads and agricultural land at the village of Umar, near Hebron, during the night.

Troops damaged parked cars and smashed the windows of the local mosque as punishment for a violent demonstration in the village after Friday prayers, the sources said.

There have been conflicting reports of the incident at Beita, near Nablus, where 15-year-old Israeli Tirtza Porat and two Palestinians were killed in a clash between villagers and settlers from the nearby settlement of Eilon Moreh.

Settlers claim the Arabs attacked the group of Jewish teenagers (Continued on page 5)

Arab foreign ministers hear report on uprising today

TUNIS (R) — With U.S. Middle East peace efforts making little progress, Arab League foreign ministers meet in Tunis Sunday to discuss the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

A league delegation charged with coordinating support for Palestinians protesting against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza will report to the meeting on a recent tour of the five permanent U.N. Security Council member countries.

Algeria has called for an emergency Arab summit, a proposal now supported by over half the league's membership.

Although the issue is not officially on the agenda, Arab League sources say any country can raise any subject and it is almost certain to be discussed.

Diplomats say it would be difficult to organise a summit during the fasting month of Ramadan, which begins April 18.

The foreign ministers' session was rescheduled to follow the latest trip to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz which produced no substantive results.

Shultz returned to Washington Friday after a six-day shuttle to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia to seek support for a new U.S. peace initiative.

The peace drive was launched two months ago largely in response to the uprising.

The committee on the uprising comprises Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi. It recently returned from a tour of the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and China.

Its members will meet Sunday morning to put the finishing touches to their report which will be presented to the full 21-member league in the afternoon.

Other items on the agenda of the full meeting include the Iran-Iraq war, U.S. attempts to close the PLO office at the United Nations in New York, and aid to Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

TNT charge explodes at Motor Licensing Department

AMMAN (J.T.) — A TNT explosive charge weighing one kilogramme went off at 11:30 a.m. Saturday near a side entrance to the main building of the Motor Vehicles Licensing Department in Marka, injuring two people, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Quoting an official spokesman, the news agency said the explosive was "deliberately placed under the staircase used by citizens visiting the department for vehicle licensing procedures."

The spokesman said the bomb "was timed to explode at that particular time when the department is crowded with people."

"It was God's will which protects this country and its citizens that this criminal incident resulted only in the injury of two citizens, who are receiving treatment at a hospital, in addition to some material damage to the building," the spokesman said.

He pointed out that "the timing of this cowardly incident coincided with the declaration of Jordan's distinctive national stand under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein in defence of Arab rights in Palestine and the rest of the occupied Arab territories."

The official spokesman said concerned security organs were "investigating this criminal act that is carried out by agents to serve the enemies of this nation and this country."

Shultz expects to return to Mideast

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, back from his latest Middle East trip, is determined to press on with his peace mission and expects to return to the region this year for a third time.

"It's worth swimming upstream," he said of the search for Middle East peace.

Shultz faces an extremely busy schedule during his last year in office with a Moscow summit in May, strategic arms control talks and an Asian trip in July.

But he told reporters travelling with him: "You can always find time for something that holds even the slightest possibility of moving forward."

Shultz returned to Washington late Friday after a six-day 26,000-

kilometre shuttle to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia to try to win support for the new U.S. peace initiative.

It was launched two months ago largely in response to the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The plan calls for a non-binding international peace conference to pave the way for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations and is based on the principle of trading land for peace.

It also envisages a period of limited "self-rule" for Palestinians, followed by talks on a permanent Arab-Israeli settlement.

Shultz had hoped Israel and the Arabs would give the initiative impetus by embracing it.

But the main Pakistan-based guerrilla alliance fighting Kabul rejected the accord a pact to be violated and said they intended to go on fighting.

Gorbachev did not mention the rebels in his speech, but said the signing of the Geneva agreements would open a new stage in the life of Afghanistan and in Soviet-Afghan ties.

A U.S. official said Saturday Secretary of State George Shultz may go to Geneva to attend the signing of the accords.

But the signing expected by Thursday depends on a formal response by Moscow to a U.S. proposal for a symmetrical continuation of U.S. and Soviet aid to warring factions. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Soviets had not yet affirmed the compromise and a decision on Shultz attending the signing depended on that affirmation.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives the credentials of Ambassador Makoto Watanabe of Japan (left), Ambassador Sumario Sorio Kosomo of Indonesia (right) and Ambassador Franz Pernegger of Austria (below)

King receives credentials of three new ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received the credentials of three newly-appointed ambassadors to Jordan — Makoto Watanabe of Japan, Sumario Sorio Kosomo of Indonesia and Franz Pernegger of Austria — at a ceremony held at the Royal Court.

The ceremonies includes inspection of guards of honour by

His Majesty and the ambassadors while the Armed Forces band played the national anthems of Jordan, Japan, Indonesia and Austria.

The ceremonies were attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.



Sorio Kosomo of Indonesia (right) and Ambassador Franz Pernegger of Austria (below)



Jordanian personalities express pride in King's stand

AMMAN (Petra) — Thirty Jordanian personalities including former ministers, judges, lawyers, doctors and members of Parliament Saturday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing deep appreciation of and pride in the monarch's national stand.

The cable was sent following the publication of a document which King Hussein handed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at the conclusion of the U.S. official's latest tour of the

Middle East region to discuss American proposals for a Middle East peace settlement.

The document outlined Jordan's position on peace efforts and the American plan and reaffirmed the principles that govern the Kingdom's movements towards settling the Middle East conflict.

The signatories said in their cable that the document was "a historic one, truly expressing a unanimous Arab stand." The cable voiced support for the

King's "brave and faithful endeavours for enhancing national unity and spearheading Jordan's national role and corroborating solidarity between the Palestinian and Jordanian people and the Arab Nation at large."

Following were signatories: Dr. Jamal Al Sha'er, Dr. Faisal Kanaan, Mr. Talal Omari, Dr. Carlos Di'mes, Dr. Wajih Barakat, Dr. Ghazi Al Qasem, Mr. Wahib Al Sha'er, Mr. Anwar Al Hadid, Ms. Laila Sayegh, Dr. Mohammad Quran, Mrs. Nailah

Rishdan Ibrahim Outour, Mr. Jaafar Tougan, Mr. Ahmad Hadid, Mr. Abdul Jaber Tayyem, Mr. Abdul Salam Qamhawi, Mr. Mohammad Taher, Mr. Odeh Halteh, Mr. Youssef Salam, Mr. Abdul Karim Dabbas, Dr. Bassam Abbas, Mr. Adel Jaraneh, Dr. Mohammad Khalaf, Mr. Bassam Ma'ayea, Dr. Adawieh Alami, Dr. Ramadan Faris, Ms. Josephine Hattar, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Azab, Mr. Ibrahim Saleh and Mr. Salim Abul Shaar.

Hijackers kill hostage, threaten to slay more

LARNACA, Cyprus (Agencies) — The hijackers of a Kuwaiti Jumbo jet killed one person aboard the airliner Saturday and threatened to kill more if the plane was not refuelled.

The intervention of a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official, who met three times with the hijackers Saturday, sparked some hopes of a breakthrough in the deadlocked negotiations on the fifth day of the hijack drama.

Cypriot officials identified the slain man as a security guard on the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747.

But the Kuwait News Agency quoted Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah as saying the victim was one of three men "with military status" returning from a private vacation in Thailand aboard the jetliner hijacked Tuesday.

Cypriot officials said negotiations between the hijackers and the Kuwaitis had stalemated, with "the hijackers demanding fuel so they can leave and the Kuwaitis insisting this must not happen."

Saturday's slaying, the first since the plane was hijacked Tuesday, came at 11:32 a.m. (0832 GMT), two minutes after a deadline set by the hijackers for the Cypriots to provide fuel expired.

"We killed one Kuwaiti from security," one of the hijackers radioed to the tower. "We have

executed our threat by executing one Kuwaiti working for security. "Send an ambulance and a coffin. Confirm one person killed."

The man's body, his hands tied behind his back, was tossed out of the door onto the tarmac. An ambulance drove slowly to the plane, medics put the body on a stretcher and it drove away.

A government spokesman said the man, who was not named, was shot three times in the head and had a broken neck.

Some 55 people including the hijackers, are aboard the 747. It was not known how many hijackers there are.

Passengers released in Iran Tuesday and Wednesday told officials in Kuwait there were as many as 10. Earlier reports put their number at five or six.

"We need fuel, otherwise you will receive other identical presents," one hijacker told the control tower. The hijackers warned police not to storm the airliner, saying it was rigged with explosives.

Cypriot government spokesman Akis Fantis told reporters Kuwaiti Minister of State for Services Issa Mohammad Al Mazidi had talks with Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou and Interior Minister Christodoulos Veniamin on the crisis.

Mazidi, whose government has

One hostage freed as 'goodwill'

LARNACA (AP) — The hijackers of a Kuwaiti Jumbo jet freed one of their captives Saturday night, government spokesman Akis Fantis said.

The identity of the man who was released was not immediately known, but Fantis said he was aged about 25 and was unwell. He gave no other details. But photographers at Larnaca airport said the man was seen leaving the plane with a senior PLO negotiator and two Cypriot officials after their fourth meeting with the hijackers Saturday.

Fantis gave no details on the man's ailment, but said he was given "first aid" in the airport's VIP lounge and was then taken by ambulance to hospital in Larnaca.

The hijackers told the tower earlier Saturday that six of their captives aboard the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 were "sick." They did not elaborate.

The Kuwait News Agency quoted unidentified official sources at Larnaca that the man is a 32-year-old Kuwaiti named Fadel Abdul-Rassoul Leeri.

Fantis said the man was freed "as a sign of goodwill by the hijackers."

Soon after airport officials said the hijackers radioed the tower with a statement read in English reiterating their demand that Kuwait free 17 prisoners, convicted there for a chain of bombings in 1983.

U.S. does not believe Israel planning anti-Saudi attack

TUNIS (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Saturday the United States had no reason to believe Israel was planning an air strike against Chinese-made medium-range missiles bought by Saudi Arabia.

"We have no reason to think at this point that Israelis are contemplating such action, and we certainly hope that they are not," he told a news conference shortly after meeting Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali.

"We have told the Israelis both privately and publicly that such action would be most unwise and most undesirable. We have made our point to view known thoroughly on that score," he said in reply to a question.

China's recent sale to Saudi Arabia of CSS-2 missiles capable of hitting any part of Israel sparked concern in the Zionist state and hints by a senior Israeli official of a possible pre-emptive strike against the Saudi batteries.

The Israeli reaction to the Saudi acquisition of missiles drew a statement of concern from the United States and warnings of retaliation from other Arab states if Israel attacked Saudi Arabia.

Foreign press reports say Israel has developed and tested a nuclear-capable missile with a range of 3,500 kilometres, similar to the CSS-2's reach.

Last month an Israeli court jailed for 18 years a former nuclear technician who told a British newspaper Israel had a nuclear weapons stockpile.

Carlucci is the first high-ranking U.S. official to visit Tunisia since Ibn Ali deposed former President Habib Bourguiba, a staunch ally, Nov. 7 last year.

In a short statement, Carlucci reiterated the U.S. government's full support for Tunisia and congratulated Ibn Ali on the "bold initiatives he is taking to bolster democracy in Tunisia."

Carlucci, who arrived on Saturday, also co-chaired the U.S.-Tunisian joint military commission. He described his talks with Ibn Ali which focused on military cooperation as very fruitful.

Ibn Ali is keen to reduce Tunisia's military debt with the United States, estimated at \$450 million. Carlucci told reporters that after changes in U.S. government legislation the debt might be refinanced over a longer period.

Defence spending was increased during the 1980s when Tunisia feared a conflict with Libya. Since Ibn Ali took over, relations with Libya have improved and diplomatic contacts were restored in December.

New clinic to help smokers quit to open soon

Can't quit? see your physician

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The first anti-smoking clinic in Amman is due to open soon in order to help those who are addicted to nicotine and tobacco into quitting the hazardous habit of smoking.

Dr. Samir Amer, internist, told the Jordan Times that the clinic will begin operating as soon as a brand of nicotine chewable tablets is legally registered.

According to Amer, the nicotine tablet will be used for some of those who want to quit smoking but suffer withdrawal symptoms because of their physical addiction to nicotine. He added that the majority of heavy smokers would probably need this substitute before completely kicking the habit.

Some anti-smoking campaigners are completely against the idea of the nicotine tablet because "it is the same poison as the nicotine in the cigarette," as Dr. Zuhair Malhas put it.

Malhas, head of the National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society, is opposed to the nicotine substitute as a method to help smokers abandon the habit because he believes that it would not work and that it would make smokers addicted to the tablets themselves, because they contain nicotine, the addictive product.

Amer, on the other hand, argues that the tablets would only be attained at pharmacies by producing a physician's prescription. He added that if the drug was abused and the amount prescribed was exceeded, then the person would vomit because the tablets are made out of pure

nicotine.

"Smokers would make sure not to abuse the tablets because their bodies would refuse them," Amer noted, adding that it would take people two to three months of chewing the tablets before stopping them altogether.

The anti-smoking clinic will help those who have tried to quit smoking without success. Dr. Amer believes that giving up cigarettes is not an overnight matter. He himself, however, gave up smoking overnight at a time he was smoking 80 cigarettes a day.

Amer, who has had experience with anti-smoking clinics in West Germany, said that the quitting programme will also include group therapy and courses on the hazards of smoking. Group therapy would provide smokers with the social support they need to help them overcome their psychological withdrawal symptoms, such as anxiety, aggression, irritability and inability to concentrate.

Group sessions at clinics that have been set up in Europe and the United States include educational material on the health dangers of smoking, and the benefits of giving up. Stress-reducing exercise sessions are also included in order to help relieve symptoms of anxiety and depression, discussions also take place on ways of coping with various problems which arise between the sessions.

Individual counselling is also part of the treatment, with pharmacological smoking cessation aids (such as the nicotine chewable tablets) being prescribed. Also, having a medical anti-smoking clinic as the setting would provide the smokers with the psychological and pharmacological support.



Untitled 1983 Carrara marble

Tabbaa's works achieve rare unity, inescapable presence

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The exhibition of the work of Samer Tabbaa at the Jordan National Gallery this week is not just an exhibition of sculptures but an exhibition of sculptures, of contained chaos and above all of ideas. Lending the work its freshness, its power to provoke thought and comment these ideas generated, perhaps more than any other exhibition in recent months a lively response in the opening night crowd.

Most of the many animated discussions that took place around the sculptures were favourable, the general feeling being that here at last was something stimulating, boldly creative and full of content. Others found the stark uncompromising modernism of the work too cold and unemotional and many felt there

was a lack of relevance towards the cultural environment in which the artist lived and worked.

But whether the work was praised or criticised all agreed that it was art of quality and even the strongest resistance faded in front of such masterpieces as Totem III and Red Hot Tobar.

It is in these two pieces, one in wood, the other in stone that all Tabbaa's ideas come together. In both there are the striking and subtle contrasts of rough with smooth, of the horizontal with the vertical and in both there is the idea that anything can happen... within limits.

Standing over two metres tall, Totem III is a majestic tower of stone in which eight roughly cut layers of unpainted grey marble sparkling with unground crystals are strictly controlled between eight perfect squares of pure almost iridescent white marble.

The careful balance between a flawless finish and raw untreated texture captured in Totem III is also caught to perfection in Red Hot Tobar, where inserted into a cube made of old bleached planks of scaffolding wood is a sticky painted sleet box.

The combination is a surprise, shocking even, but it brings the piece alive and through it Tabbaa links the diverse elements of his brightly painted wooden sculptures with the more restrained air of his stone pieces.

It is among these latter that many really excellent classical pieces of modern sculpture are found, pieces that would grace any international modern museum.

Carved out of many different kinds of stone — basalt, Spanish Calatraz stone, Irbid stone, Carrara marble, Travertine —

Tabbaa releases the qualities of each making you aware of the grainy crystals of one, the smooth blackness of the other, the deep coloured veins of the third, at the same time playing with textures, with the lawlessness of raw nature within geometric boundaries, with vertical and horizontal planes.

Each of these different aspects is given equal importance, nothing dominates, all is in perfect balance reflecting Tabbaa's idea that in a ploughed field, the spaces between the furrows are just as important as the furrows themselves.

Tabbaa's first love was stone and it is when he is with working with stone you feel he is at his most comfortable.

Slowly however as he continues to work with wood these latter sculptures have started to

assume a greater confidence and although his first attempts were a little self conscious he has gone on to produce such striking pieces as "Black," a small monolith of striated wood painted in matt black. The Zebra Solution and the wall hanging tology, Black and White, White and Black, White. Witty clever, these latter two play with the effect colour has on transforming the same form and with the precariousness of balance.

In wood, Tabbaa achieves a greater freedom of expression. And in these pieces, unlike in his stone works, he is the master and thus he becomes more daring, more experimental.

With a randomness, unseen in the more geometric stone works, he chisels out small patches of woods, knawing away at the surface like a caterpillar taking bites

out of a leaf. These he paints in bright primary colours that form a rough and vivid contrast to the smooth matt black of the main upright elements that are the basis of these works. Rows of meandering pegs, the shape of hastily applied black graphite, interesting shapes ironically balanced all add further sparks of life and humour to already very vital pieces.

Offset by a series of sketches of very simple randomly drawn black lines, the sculptures are beautifully displayed.

The varying heights of the exhibits along with the careful distribution of the vertical with the horizontal enables the viewer to see the sculptures as part of a whole and through this Tabbaa's sculptures achieve a rare unity and inescapable presence.

The exhibition runs until April 15th.



Chain smokers need medical help (File photo)

TV & RADIO

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PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:35 Programme Review
16:00 Cartoons
16:30 Children's programmes
17:00 News in Arabic
17:30 Soccer: Jordan vs. Pakistan (live transmission)
19:10 Local agricultural programme
19:45 Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme on Arabic
22:30 T.V. Magazine (local)
23:00 News Summary
23:10 T.V. Magazine contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 L'Etoile des Fars
19:00 News in French
19:15 International Circus Festival
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 My Husband and I
21:10 Jack Cousteau
22:00 News in English
22:30 Ohara
23:30 Richman, Poorman

RADIO JORDAN

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 In Concert
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Talk
11:00 News Summary
11:30 Pop Session contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Listener's Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Rhythm and Blues
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:30 Evening Show continued
22:00 News Summary
22:30 Evening Show continued
23:00 News Summary
23:30 News Headline
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1223 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 The Seven Ages of Man 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 08:30 Big Bands — The Singers 08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Jazz for the Aching 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 From Our Own Correspondent 10:45 Book Choice 10:50 Waveguide 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Pleasures Yours 12:00 World News 12:05 The Sunday Papers 12:15 Science in Action 12:45 Squaring the Triangle 13:00 News Summary: Short Story 13:15 Classical Record Review 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 From Our Own Correspondent 14:30 Play of the Week: Tartuffe 15:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: Tartuffe contd. 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Sports Roundup 16:45 The Tony Myster Show including at 17:00 News Summary 17:30 Jazz Score 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 Can Communism Cope? 19:45 Letter from America 20:00 World News 20:05 Reflections 20:15 Jazz for the Aching 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 My Word 22:00 News Summary followed by Classical Record Review 22:15 Feature 23:00 World News 23:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sunday Half Hour 24:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 00:15 Pleasures Yours 01:00 World News 01:05 Caneery Round 01:15 Book Choice 01:30 Financial Review 01:45 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00 World News 02:05 Commentary 02:15 Letter from America 02:30 Six Cities

VOICE OF AMERICA

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07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 08:30 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 News Horizons 10:30 Studio One 19:00 News 19:10 Encounter 19:30 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Evening Show 20:30 News 21:00 News 21:10 Encounter 21:30 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:10 Sunday Report 22:30 Music, USA Standards 23:00 News 23:10 The Concert Hall 23:55 Editorial 24:00 News 00:10 News Horizons 00:30 Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Boudis and Monir Al Tounissi at the Housing Bank Gallery.

★ From Gutenberg to Electronics Dar el Thi Goethe Institute.

★ An art exhibition by Mohammad Abu Zreiq at the Alia Art Gallery.

★ Exhibition entitled "Groundwater and Mineral Resources in Jordan" examples of Jordanian-German Cooperation" at the Ministry of Energy.

★ An art exhibition by Samer Tabbaa at the National Museum of Fine Arts.

★ Plastic art exhibition by students at the University of Jordan.

★ Exhibition of Palestinian Folklore and Books on Palestine at the University of Jordan.

★ Plastic art exhibition by Dekran Yorgian at Plaza Hotel.

★ Exhibition of photographs of Jordan at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition by Abdul Salam Katanam, at the French Cultural Centre.

WORKSHOP

★ A specialised workshop on medical research, at University of Jordan Manpower Development Centre.

VISIT

★ The American Centre is hosting a visit to Jordan by Dr. Esat Atil, Curator of Islamic Art at the Smithsonian Institution's Sackler Gallery between April 9-11. Dr. Atil will give lectures at the Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts, Jordan University, and Yarmouk University. For more details on Dr. Atil's programme please call the American Centre, ext. 337.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre... Tel. 6610267
American Centre... 644371

AMERICAN CENTRE LIBRARY

British Council... 6361478
French Cultural Centre... 637009
Goethe Institute... 641993
Spanish Cultural Centre... 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre... 639777
Haya Arts Centre... 665195
Hussein Youth City... 6671816
Y.W.C.A... 641793
Amman Municipal Library... 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library... 843555

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Elghis Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 634590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Terra Santa Church (Roman Catholic), Jabel Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601399.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (later-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisil, Tel. 677334.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Ashrafieh, Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 8112951.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

18:15 Agaba (RJ)
18:30 Kuwait (RJ)
18:40 Jeddah (RJ)
18:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
19:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:15 Frankfurt (RJ)
19:30 New York, London (RJ)
19:45 Paris (RJ)
19:55 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
19:05 Frankfurt (RJ)
19:15 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
19:25 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:35 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:15 Larnaca (JF)
10:30 Cairo (MS)
11:00 Damascus (AZ)
12:30 Baghdad (LA)
13:30 Sharja, Doha (GF)
13:45 Kuwait (LN)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
14:40 Jeddah (SV)
17:35 Athens (OA)
19:25 Frankfurt (LH)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
21:10 Berlin (IF)
22:05 Cairo (MS)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Agaba (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:25 Kuwait (RJ)
20:40 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
20:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:55 Baghdad (RJ)
21:00 Larnaca (JF)
21:05 Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
21:15 Cairo (RJ)
22:15 Damascus (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
10:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:40 Larnaca, Berlin (F)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
12:30 Rome (AZ)
14:00 Baghdad (LA)
14:30 Bahrain, Doha, Sharja, Muscat (GF)
15:00 Tripoli (LN)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
17:40 Jeddah (SV)
18:20 Athens (OA)
20:15 Sana'a (LH)
22:50 Cairo (MS)

PRAYER TIMES

04:06 Fajr
06:07 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:37 Dhur
16:13 Asr
19:07 Maghrib
20:28 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc... 95.4/96.8
Dutch guilder... 177.9/180.6
French franc... 36.3/37.7
Italian lira... 26.9/27.3
Japanese yen (for 100)... 265.7/270.1
Swedish crown... 56.7/57.5
Swiss franc... 241.7/245.3
U.K. sterling pound... 627/636.4
U.S. dollar... 334.5/339.3
W. German mark... 199.6/202.8

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight increase in temperature is expected, with northeasterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.
Amman... 13/26
Agaba... 20/32
Cableage... 12/28
Jordan Valley... 18/28
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 23, Agaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Agaba 14 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate... 891228
Amman Civil Defence... 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid... 271253, 273131
Civil Defence Qusweish... 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla... 57306
Ambulance... 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade... 198
First aid... 630341
Blood Bank... 778303
Civil Defence rescue... 661111
Fire headquarters... 620303-3
Police rescue... 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters... 639141
Traffic police... 8963901
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 77125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)5330460

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre... 81381/322
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn... 64231/6
Al-Khalidi Maternity... 64241/2
Jabel Amman Maternity... 642362
Malhas, J. Amman... 636144
Palestine, Shmeisil... 669131
Shmeisil Hospital... 8453453
University Hospital... 66727/79
The Islamic, Abdali... 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali... 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen... 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh... 775112/6
Azzay, Marfa... 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital... 64240/50
Amal Hospital... 674155

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Youssef Sammour... 615648
Dr. M. Abu Mafouz... 793344
Dr. Issa Smeir... 821311
Dr. A. Abu Khalaf... 663532
First pharmacy... 663512
Fendous pharmacy... 783336
Al Asama pharmacy... 637053
Nairokh pharmacy... 623672
Al Salem pharmacy... 636730
Yacoub pharmacy... 644845
Shmeisil pharmacy... 637660
TAXIS:
Altam taxi... 663911
Zaid taxi... 664476
Khyran taxi... 64154
Cairo taxi... 819137
Jordan taxi... 623050
Kurdi taxi... 841209

REED:

Dr. Radwan Al Sa'ad... 772877
Al Sheraa pharmacy... 773825

ZARQA:

Dr. Hasham Sharbaty... 98632
Khalifeh pharmacy... 985417

GENERAL

Jordan Television... 77311/19
Radio Jordan... 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism... 642311
Hotel complaints... 666412
Price complaints... 661176
Telephone information... 12
Jordan and Middle East calls... 10
Overseas calls... 10
Repair service... 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (French)... 420/340
Apple (green)... 470/420
Banana... 350/300
Banana (Mukammal)... 300/240
Beans... 400/340
Beans (broad)... 300/230
Cabbage... 180/140
Carrot... 200/160
Cauliflower (white)... 180/140
Cucumbers... 260/200
Eggplant (large)... 200/150
Eggplant (small)... 180/140
Garlic (dry)... 100/38
Garlic (green)... 200/180
Lemon... 220/180
Marrow... 280/240
Onion (green)... 180/140
Onion (dry)... 260/200
Oranges (local)... 220/180
Oranges (Shamouti)... 340/280
Peas... 320/260
Pepper (hot)... 380/320
Pepper (sweet)... 320/260
Potato... 120/90
Radish... 80/50
Spinach... 120/90
Tomatoes... 280/240

Jordan Times

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Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor in Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Government provides, private sector produces

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

DURING the last three years or so, Jordanians witnessed an extensive public debate over the issue of privatisation. However, during the last year, those heated discussions calmed down. It is obvious that the degree of priority assigned to privatisation on the government agenda has retreated considerably for reasons and circumstances we are not going to dwell on at this time.

In retrospect we can point out that the issue was dealt with in Jordan from an institutional and procedural points of view. We did not talk much about the merits of private ownerships and the efficiency of private managers. We were simply discussing whether or not certain public corporations such as the Telecommunications Corporation, The Royal Jordanian Airline or the Public Transport Corporation should be transformed into public shareholding companies while remaining within the domain of the public sector as far as ownership and management are concerned.

In other words we did not debate privatisation as a grand policy with all its underlying economic, administrative, and ideological consequences. Privatisation was presented simply as a reorganisation matter whereby administrative changes will take place especially in the position of certain corporations on the public sector

chart. We were debating whether these corporations should be subjected to the Audit Bureau's scrutiny or were they to be made to adhere to the rigid rules and regulations of purchases and personnel which were thought to hinder dynamic management and proper decision-making.

Perhaps privatisation as such was never officially contemplated. The government only wanted to secure more flexibility for its public corporations by transforming a selected group of them into shareholding companies.

We have no intention of reopening a chapter which was closed or almost closed. We only want to draw a line between providing services and goods on one hand and producing them on the other. The government is obviously under obligation to provide the essential services to the people under all circumstances. Under privatisation, the government is not obliged to produce these services and goods. The private sector is.

The distinction and separation between providing and producing is not new in our own experience. The Ministry of Public Works and Housing for instance provides roads and houses, while construction contractors build them in compliance with technical

specifications predetermined by the government. The Ministry of Education provides meals to students at boarding teachers schools, private catering contractors produce these meals in accordance with specifications set by the ministry.

Privatisation or not, the government cannot escape its basic duty to provide essential services to the people. However, there is near consensus that the government does not excel in the function of direct production in the fields of food, clothes, hotel accommodation, or media services.

It is not terribly important to change the form of a public corporation into a public shareholding company as long as it will continue to be run by the same mentality and methods of the public sector. It is more important to distinguish between the function of providing services and the function of producing these. The first function clearly falls on the shoulders of the government. The second function should fall on the shoulders of the private sector. Thus the government will retain the right to oversee, regulate and protect the people, something that it cannot perform properly if it were directly involved in the production process itself.

Unshakable stand

THE unambiguous statement given to the U.S. administration by His Majesty the King outlining Jordan's unwavering stand towards efforts for peace in the Middle East and the principles that govern the Kingdom's perception of a just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict has dispelled all scepticism and doubts that had been freely aired over its position towards the American peace plan propagated by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The Jordanian statement has also done away with the free-for-all exercise that Israel had been performing, through planting false information and "leaking" anything but the truth to the information media.

It has been made more than abundantly clear for all those who matter that neither Jordan nor any of the Arab parties whom Shultz met with in his latest trip has rejected the American plan. On the contrary, the Arab quest is to pick up from the American plan and make it compatible with the just requirements of peace in the Middle East and meet the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination. It is also clear from statements made by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai to the local press Friday that there is indeed some shift in the American position towards understanding and appreciating Jordan's principled stand.

Shultz is now back in Washington with very little to show in the way of progress towards realising his objective of acceptance of the American plan after his 26,000-odd kilometre swing through the Middle East. But, more than anything else, he is armed with a very clear understanding of how the Arabs perceive the just requirements of peace. Needless to say, he also gathered as much idea about the Israeli stand.

At this point in time, the U.S. should know very well what is impeding peace in the region. No matter which way Washington looks at it, there should not be any ambiguity over the Arab position, based on international legitimacy and universally-accepted principles for resolving problems involving the national aspirations of a people under occupation. It is time for the Americans to start weeding away the net outcome of the Shultz shuttle and reach the inevitable conclusion that pressure is not to be applied on the Arabs but on their "staunchest ally" — Israel — to recognise and accept the inseparable fundamentals of a just settlement.

The bomb explosion in Amman Saturday, coming as it did in less than 24 hours after Jordan made its principled and honourable stand loud and clear in so many words, is a grim reminder that there are elements who would stop at nothing in their desperate attempts to undermine the noble path followed by this country and its leadership.

But, if the motive that prompted the agents of evil to carry out the dastardly crime was to shake this country's firm adherence to its principled course they will soon discover that they could not be more mistaken.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Honourable stand

KING Hussein handed U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz a six-point document containing the principles that bind Jordan's movement towards an acceptable settlement of the Middle East problem. The prime minister, for his part, talked to the Jordanian press stating that Jordan's stand vis a vis the U.S. initiative can be determined in the light of the U.S. response to Jordan's principles. With this statement and this document, Jordan has thus re-stated clearly its national commitment, demanding a full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. Jordan emphasised once again the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war and its adherence to a U.N. sponsored international conference in order to enable the Palestinians to determine their own future on their own soil. Jordan has reminded the U.S. that it cannot act for the Palestinians at the projected conference and can by no means negotiate for them on the Palestine problem; but it will be ready to attend the conference through a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, if the other parties agreed on this arrangement. This is an honourable stand, representing the Arab Nation's views with regard to the requirements of peace in the region. This clear document foils the enemy's obligations about inter-Arab disagreements that prevent a settlement.

Al Dustour: Commitment to national stand

JORDAN has responded to the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz with an open mind, but with strict adherence to the Arab Nation's principles and stands. Jordan has handed Shultz, following his three visits to Amman, a document containing principles binding any movement towards an acceptable solution for the Middle East question. Jordan has informed the U.S. that it is adhering to the principle of inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force which is clearly provided for in U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which also calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab lands and the establishment of peace based on justice. Jordan is demanding a complete settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, and the return of the rights of the Palestinian people. Perhaps the most important issue at the moment is the international conference which Jordan demands to be convened as soon as possible to find a just and durable Middle East settlement. Jordan believes that Resolution 242 should not be tampered with, and should be implemented in full because it affects all lands occupied by Israel since 1967. Such basic principle is un-negotiable at the conference or its committees. Moreover, the King said in his document to Shultz that Jordan cannot and will not represent the Palestinians at the conference and that the PLO should be given the task of dealing with the Palestine problem.

Sawt Al Shaab: Clear position

THE document which Jordan handed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has placed matters in their right perspective with regard to Jordan's stand on the Middle East peace process. King Hussein said that Jordan's stand with regard to the latest U.S. proposals will be determined in the light of these proposals' response to the Jordanian principles and demands. Although Jordan has stated its ideas and principles clearly, it remains open to a dialogue and to any talk designed to achieve permanent peace.

Irangate and beyond

IRANGATE has become a major scandal for the Reagan administration, but largely for reasons unrelated to Middle East policy. "What did the president know and when did he know it?" is the war cry of the hunters in Congress and the news media. The main substantive issues are the following: Failing to inform Congress of the arms deal, pursuing totally contradictory policies toward "terrorists" and hostage takers, and finally compounding these sins by too cleverly diverting Iran arms profits to fund the Nicaraguan contras — in probable violation (at one point) of a congressional amendment. On the procedural level the principal issue is a presidential "management style" so casual that a cabal of middle-level National Security Council and CIA employees could apparently carry out a policy to which the responsible senior officials — the secretaries of state and defence — were either opposed or begrudgingly indifferent or of which they were ignorant. In the Watergate-style theatre of the combined House and Senate committees which has dominated public attention since November 1986, the future control of the White House could be decided, not to mention the future course of American policy in the Middle East.

But, as Senator Daniel Inouye (Democrat from Hawaii), chairman of the Senate select committee, has remarked, Irangate is much more than a Watergate-style domestic scandal; it has serious international repercussions as well. What impact may the American arms sales to Iran have on the course of the Iran-Iraq war? If they have helped the Iranians gain military superiority what will the consequences be for the conservative Arab Gulf states, and for more distant states such as Jordan, Syria, and Egypt? Indeed, what might the results be for Israel, whose government encouraged the deal? What of American credibility in the area, both with friends and adversaries? These questions certainly should cause American policy makers to worry, especially as Iran relentlessly tries to assert its hegemony throughout the Gulf and beyond.

In the thousands of pages of investigation and testimony churned out by the joint House and Senate hearings, the Senate Intelligence Committee's report, the Tower Commission report, and the massive reportages of diligent newspaper reporters, enough evidence has been discovered to reconstruct the bizarre Realpolitik logic of the advocates of the opening to Iran. The idea of such an opening was hardly new to Reagan administration officials. In fact, it may have originated even before Mr. Reagan's first-term election in November 1980. The former president of Iran, Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, told American journalists that high Iranian emissaries met with aides of Ronald Reagan in October 1980, and that they agreed that in exchange for future Reagan administration assistance in supplying badly needed American arms to Iran (via Israel) the Americans being held hostage in Tehran would not be released until Mr. Reagan took office. If Bani-Sadr's account and the other scraps of evidence that have been unearthed can be believed, then the Reagan administration traded a promise of arms help for a quintessentially domestic political purpose: To deprive President Carter of any possible solution to the hostage crisis before the election. Whether there is any validity to this hypothesis is hard to say since Bani-Sadr's assertions

could be false and the corroborating evidence is only fragmentary. Yet it is interesting that Israel did begin supplying arms to Iran during the first part of 1981, perhaps within a month of the president's inauguration and Iran's release of the American hostages. Knowledge of Israel's arms supply came to light when an Argentinian transport plane apparently bound from Israel to Iran went off course and crashed in the Soviet Union in July 1981; according to Bani-Sadr this was the second or third shipment. In May 1982, Israel's then defence minister, Ariel Sharon, told *The Washington Post* that Israel had begun an undercover arms supply to Iran with the full knowledge of American officials: "We gave them the lists, they knew exactly," he said. Up to that point the sales amounted to around \$27 million, mainly for F-4 Phantom spare parts, Israel's primary interest was to distract an increasingly powerful Iraq from supporting an Arab "eastern front" against Israel: Reagan administration officials, apart from any partisan interests they may have had, presumably determined that Israeli gambit would also serve American interests because it would make Israel more secure and also might give both it and the United States a potential "foothold" in revolutionary Iran.

Later, as Iran's support for anti-Western groups in the Middle East became more apparent, and as Iraq moved toward a "moderate" stance, the United States restored full diplomatic relations with Iraq. In January 1984, Washington initiated "Operation Staunch" to discourage arms sales to Iran, and accused Iran of supporting international terrorism. On March 16, pro-Iranian militants in Beirut kidnapped the CIA's station chief William Buckley — an event that reportedly galvanised (the late) William Casey, director of the CIA, to explore any and all possibilities (including arms deliveries) to free his agent. William Safire, a columnist who was once a speechwriter for President Richard Nixon and a confidant of Casey, has suggested that Casey, through his protégé Lt. Colonel Oliver North at the National Security Council (NSC), immediately initiated a ransom scheme (through Texas millionaire H. Ross Perot) and a commando rescue mission; both efforts (and perhaps others not publicly known) came to naught, and eventually Buckley was tortured to death in Iran.

By late 1984 the NSC was drawing up a reappraisal of U.S. policy toward Iran. Then (according to a former State Department official), within two months of the beginning of Reagan's second term in January 1985, the idea of an "opening" (or shall we say "another opening"?) to Iran emanated from the CIA; policy memos advocating this idea were circulated within the executive branch, but they were demolished by the Middle East specialists who thought that the CIA's assumption that the Khomeini regime was on the verge of collapse and could be replaced by "moderates" was ludicrous. Nevertheless, the idea lived on, apparently because of Casey's patronage and his influence with what has come to be known as "the NSC cabal" — McFarlane, Poindexter, North, (the late) Donald Fortier, and Howard Teicher. This was the same group that had been responsible for the creeping U.S. military involvement in Lebanon in 1983 and the subsequent debacle.

In April and May 1985, after several near kidnappings of Americans in Beirut by the Iran-backed Islamic Jihad organisation, and

NSC-CIA group apparently began to develop operational plans for a direct U.S. opening to Iran; a "consultant" to this group, Michael Ledeen, travelled to Israel and met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and his key aide David Kimche. (Kimche had also been an "advisor" to the "NSC cabal" on Lebanon.) According to the former State Department official cited above, Ledeen served as the channel between Kimche and McFarlane and the NSC-CIA group (a group from which three other NSC Middle East specialists were excluded). Whether President Reagan at this time was aware of the discussions about an "opening" was not clear as of June 1987, but it is generally believed that he was personally deeply concerned about the hostages and was feeling heavy pressure from the hostage families, who were reaching the American media effectively. With strong Israeli encouragement, two plane loads of arms from the United States were sent via Israel in August and September. Growing uneasiness among some of the American officials prompted a suspension of the initiative late in 1985, but the Israelis were instrumental in reviving it in January 1986 after Peres dispatched an emissary to Washington to lobby for it. President Reagan then was persuaded to sign a secret intelligence "finding" on January 17, 1986 authorising arms shipments without notifying Congress, and the first direct shipment was sent in February. In April it appears that Colonel North wrote a memo of plans to use Iranian arms sales profits to help fund surreptitiously the contra rebels in Nicaragua. In May Robert McFarlane undertook his now-famous secret mission to Tehran, accompanied by an Israeli as well as other American officials and another plane load of arms; but negotiations for the release of American hostages broke down. The release of one of the hostages, Father Lawrence Jenco, at the end of July was followed within two weeks by another arms shipment, and then another at the end of October after which hostage David Jacobson was released. On November 3, the Beirut magazine *Al Shira* revealed McFarlane's mission, and on November 25 U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese disclosed the Iran-contra connection and announced the resignation of NSC advisor John Poindexter and the firing of his deputy Oliver North. For months afterwards the scandal was front-page news.

Hardly anybody in the United States knowledgeable about the affair defends it. Even those who make the strategic argument about the geopolitical importance of Iran and the desirability of having contacts with it find it difficult to argue that this was the way to do so. Was it wise to negotiate arms for hostages? Probably not, on principle; even if one were prepared to pay ransom it probably should not have been in arms. In any event the results were disappointing: For two hostages released the ones remaining were doomed to longer captivity once the deal was made public — which it surely would have been sooner or later. Meanwhile, several other Americans were abducted in west Beirut to replenish the hostage supply. Did the dealing strengthen those mythical Iranian "moderates" who were rumoured to be ready to replace the ailing Khomeini, as the NSC's Iranian "go-between," Manucher Ghorbanifar, was able to persuade the gullible NSC staffers? No, since there were no "moderates"; and even the "pragmatists" had to manoeuvre deftly to avoid the opprobrium of the more militant elements, who

looked askance at dealings with the Israelis and Americans even for badly needed arms. The pragmatists, notably Rafsanjani, covered themselves by ridiculing the Americans. Indeed, it was not difficult to convince almost everyone that the Reagan administration had been baboosled.

Did the arms deliveries have an effect on the Iran-Iraq war and Gulf stability? Contrary to early statements by President Reagan that the supplies were too modest to make a difference, military analysts noted a distinct upgrading of Iran's air defences and anti-tank capabilities; and Iraq began to suffer a number of demoralising setbacks. The Iranian leadership was able to be more confident of its eventual ability to prevail and less willing to accept a *status quo ante* diplomatic solution to the war. Iran's momentum — not just its military upgrading but its political success in obtaining arms from the United States — generated new shock waves throughout the Arabian peninsula — and especially in Kuwait, where the sounds of the battle could be heard. The Gulf Cooperation Council states, accordingly, felt increasing pressure to reach political and economic accommodations with a resurgent Iranian presence in the region, fearing that otherwise Tehran might step up its "export" of revolutionary militant Islam. Such fears doubtless were intensified by the Iranian-instigated violence in Mecca in July 1987. If the arms sales were intended to reassure America's "moderate" Arab friends by encouraging Iranian moderation (or rather appeasing the Ayatollah), these Arab states' reaction, on the contrary, was a combination of fright, bewilderment, and bitterness over American appeasement. Even Syria — Iran's important Arab ally — reportedly began to reassess its tactical alliance, fearing the possible collapse of Iraq and a dangerous extension of Iranian (a radical Islamic) influence in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Arab World. Ironically, some Israelis and their American spokesmen who once championed the Iran gambit belatedly recognised that enhanced Iranian hegemony might eventually be dangerous to Israel and so began urging stepped-up help to Iraq.

Irangate was not America's finest moment in the Middle East. In his masterly critique of Colonel Oliver North's testimony before the Iran-contra hearings, Congressman Lee Hamilton (Democrat from Indiana and chairman of the House select committee) summed up the damage:

"[S]elling arms to Iran in secret was, to put it simply, bad policy. The policy contradicted and undermined long-held, often articulated, widely supported public policies in the United States... We sold arms to a nation officially designated by our government as a terrorist state. This secret policy of selling arms to Iran damaged U.S. credibility... Friendly governments were deceived... [I]n the Middle East, mutual trust with some friends was damaged, even shattered. The policy of arms for hostages sent a clear message to the states of the Gulf, and that message was that the United States is helping Iran in its war effort, and making an accommodation with the Iranian revolution, and Iran's neighbours should do the same. The policy provided the Soviets an opportunity they have now grasped, with which we are struggling to deal. The policy achieved none of the goals it sought. The Ayatollah got his arms, more Americans are held hostage today than when this policy began, subversion of U.S. interests throughout the region by Iran continues. Moderates in Iran, if any there were, did not come forward... Today, those moderates are showing fidelity to

the Iranian revolution by leading the charge against the United States in the Gulf.

In searching for explanations, one of course focuses on individual officials who were operating beyond their intellectual depth and others whose partisanship (for Israel, in particular) blinded them to the damage their actions would cause for America's larger position in the region. But there are deeper structural factors behind a policy malaise that goes far beyond Irangate. First is the structural problem of foreign policy decision-making. It is difficult, especially in an area like the Middle East (which is also part of domestic politics), to generate and sustain effective policy. The presidency, paradoxically, is an office that is simultaneously too strong and too weak. Despite our elaborate constitutional checks and balances, the office of the president is the fulcrum of the policy process: Whoever can control it can effectively shape Middle East policy. When the incumbent president is inattentive to his office and unable to grasp the realities of that complex part of the world, the office is vulnerable to "virtual takeover by overzealous officials" or court politicians. The presidency at the same time is weak in its relationship to Congress; for example, it is now almost impossible for the administration to sell major weapons systems to Jordan or Saudi Arabia because of Congress's refusal to approve such sales. In the Gulf, the administration's ill-fated Iran gambit strengthened Arab states, and thus facilitated a significant opening to the Soviet Union. Even though a new Middle East team in the NSC tried to correct errors of the past and project a new American presence to bolster friendly Arab regimes, these efforts — symbolised by the decision to "reflag" some Kuwaiti tankers to guarantee U.S. naval protection — did not generate bipartisan congressional support, initially at least; and so some students of American foreign policy wondered whether an administration so weakened by Irangate could actually sustain a confrontation with Iran. Yet an American retreat after such a confrontation would vastly erode

the security of friendly Arab states and the influence of the United States through the region.

Then there is the unavoidable question of Israel's shadow over U.S. Middle East policy. On Middle East matters the grip of the Israeli lobby on Congress is so tight that it surprises the lobbyists themselves; and the influence of the Jewish state's supporters among high officials in the executive branch has been repeatedly demonstrated during the Reagan administration — especially in the Irangate caper. True, Israel has been badly tarnished in recent months, particularly over its spy, Jonathan Pollard; yet the Pollard affair, one of the most damaging espionage cases in American history, appears unlikely to weaken fundamentally the unique U.S.-Israeli relationship, just as the Israeli attack on the U.S. naval vessel, *Liberty*, in 1967 has been largely forgotten. If incidents like those fail to break the Israeli grip on U.S. policy, then one can hardly expect problems such as cost overruns on the Lavi fighter plane, or even deep involvement in Irangate, to cause serious damage. Nevertheless, American supporters of Israel are worried that it may be pushing its luck over the long term if such brazen incidents continue.

At the most general level, doubts arise in the minds of many Americans as to the capabilities of our institutions to generate rational policy. There are many power centres in the American government, but the liberal assumption that sensible outcomes will emerge from the pluralistic mix of viewpoints is not easy to maintain in an age when the fragmentation of political and bureaucratic institutions seems to promote inconsistency and narrowly partisan outcomes. The Middle East is a particularly discouraging policy area in this respect, although it is not the only one. One hopes, of course, that a scandal such as Irangate contains the seeds of correction. But it is probably unrealistic to expect major improvements without a new, more enlightened, and less crippled president, as well as a Congress with greater knowledge and independence in deciding Middle East issues.

LETTERS

Minerals yes, oil no

To the Editor:

IN the Jordan Times issue of April 4, 1988, and within your coverage of the 3rd Jordanian geological conference, Mr. T. Taher, director general of Arab Mining Co. (ARMICO), was quoted as saying in his speech before the conference that ARMICO's consultancy services would be of special benefit for North Yemen and that the newly established consultancy unit would offer advice to Arab countries in the field of oil prospecting.

We find it imperative to clarify that Mr. Taher was misquoted. What he actually mentioned was that the company's consultancy services would be offered in the mining field and industries related thereto. Furthermore, ARMICO had no activities related to oil in North Yemen, and Mr. Taher actually said that the opening of the conference coincided with the commencement of oil exploitation at commercial levels in the Yemen Arab Republic being the fruit of a long and hard geological effort, as well as oil exploration activities being carried out in Jordan and many other Arab countries.

It would be appreciated if these clarifications could be published in your esteemed newspaper to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding.

Saad Anani
Director
Administration Department
and Public Relations
ARMICO

MIDEAST NEWS BRIEFS

Kaunda, U.N. chief discuss W. Sahara

BRUSSELS (R) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar began talks Saturday on the Western Sahara conflict. Diplomats said the two men would try to draft a peace plan for the area during their private weekend meeting. The talks are expected to focus on ways of holding a U.N.-sponsored self-determination referendum in the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have fought Morocco for independence since 1976. Next week Kaunda, current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), is due to visit Morocco — which broke with the OAU in 1984 in protest at its admission of Polisario's diplomatic arm, the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). But Morocco now supports a referendum held under U.N. auspices. A U.N. mission visited the Western Sahara, Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania last November to study the possibility of a referendum but its report has not been published. The diplomats said Kaunda would decide during his talks with Perez de Cuellar whether to fly to Algeria before his working visit to Morocco, which starts April 13.

Colombia to buy 13 fighters from Israel

BOGOTA (R) — The Colombian parliament has approved the purchase of 13 Kfir military planes from Israel for \$200 million, officials were quoted as saying Friday. The Press Bulletin of the Congress quoted Defence Minister General Rafael Samudio as saying some of the planes would be transformed into tankers for the in-flight refuelling of Colombia's French-made Mirages. Colombia bought 18 Mirage jets from France in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The planes were recently reconditioned in Israel.

Walsh disputes defence move

WASHINGTON (R) — Special prosecutors in the Iran-contra scandal, disputing a defence request to drop all criminal charges, said Friday they could prove their case without using congressional testimony given under immunity. In court papers that accused lawyers for the Iran-contra defendants of stalling for time, special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh's office proposed a scheme it said would expedite the case against former White House aides Oliver North, John Poindexter and two associates while protecting their rights. Lawyers for North, John Poindexter and Iranian-American arms dealer Albert Hakim Thursday moved for dismissal of criminal charges, claiming their congressional testimony was being used against them.

Soviet air chief ends talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — Soviet Air Force Chief Alexandre Efimov ended a four-day visit to Syria Friday during which he discussed ways to promote military cooperation between the two countries, officials said.

Iranian repeats offer to help free Waite

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has renewed an offer to step up efforts for the release of British hostage Terry Waite in Lebanon if London helped to free four Iranians held there, the national news agency IRNA reported Saturday. The agency said the head of Iran's war information headquarters, Kamal Kharazi, told a news conference in Rome Friday: "Once the British government has exploited its leverage in Lebanon and secured the release of four Iranian hostages... in that country then the Iranian government would use its influence in Lebanon to secure Terry Waite's freedom." Waite, an envoy of the Church of England who vanished in Beirut in January last year while on a mission aimed at freeing other foreign hostages, is believed held by pro-Iranian militants. Iran says its charge d'affaires in Lebanon, Hossein Mousavi, together with a Revolutionary Guards official, a news photographer and a Lebanese driver, were kidnapped by the Lebanese Forces militia in July 1982. An offer for Iran and Britain to cooperate in using their influence in Lebanon to free Waite and the Iranian hostages was first made last year by Iran's influential parliamentary speaker, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.



SURMOUNTING HURDLES: A masked Palestinian demonstrator leaps over burning tyres as he retreats from advancing Israeli soldiers during a demonstration in Beit Sahur in the Israeli-occupied West Bank in the 16-week-old Palestinian uprising.

Ethiopia lets 3 ICRC staff stay in Eritrea

NAIROBI (R) — Ethiopia has

allowed three members of the

International Committee of the

Red Cross (ICRC) to stay in

Eritrea despite an order Wednesday

that all foreign relief workers

should leave the war-torn region.

Vincent Bernard, an ICRC de-

legate in Addis Ababa, told Reuters

Saturday that the other two

members of staff in the Eritrean

capital Asmara flew to Addis

Ababa Friday.

The government gave no

reason for allowing three to stay

and did not say how long they

could remain in the north, he

added.

In the neighbouring province

of Tigray, which is also covered

by the government's withdrawal

order, authorities have not yet

told ICRC's 14 expatriate staff to

pull out and they are staying for

the time being, Bernard said.

The ICRC's headquarters in

Geneva has asked the Ethiopian

government to reconsider the

withdrawal order, arguing that

the intensification of fighting in

the two provinces made its

presence more urgent than ever.

The government, which cited

security reasons for its decision

Wednesday, has not yet formally

replied to the request, Bernard

added.

The Red Cross is one of the

main foreign organisations distrib-

uting relief food to an estimated

three million people hit by

drought in Tigray and Eritrea.

Two rebel groups, the Eritrean

People's Liberation Movement

and the Tigray People's Libera-

tion Movement, have been making

rapid advances against the

Ethiopian army since early

March.

A United Nations spokesman

said Friday a senior U.N. official

would fly to Ethiopia to discuss

the relief effort.

Secretary General Javier Perez

de Cuellar had asked President

Mengistu Haile Mariam to re-

ceive U.N. Under-Secretary

General Martti Ahtisaari, the

spokesman said.

Ahtisaari, a Finn who heads the

U.N. Department of Administra-

tion and Management, is ex-

pected to leave for Ethiopia over

the weekend.

UNICEF exempted

The U.N. Children's Fund

(UNICEF) said Friday the Ethio-

pian government had exempted it

from the withdrawal order.

A UNICEF spokeswoman told

journalists in Geneva Friday:

"We have been informed official-

ly that UNICEF will not be

affected by the measures."

UNICEF, which last October

launched an appeal for \$22 mil-

lion for food and relief supplies

for Tigray and Eritrea, has raised

half that amount to date.

The U.N. Disaster Relief

Organisation (UNDRO) said in

Geneva that aircraft had begun

evacuating expatriate staff from

Tigray and Eritrea to Addis Ab-

aba.

Turkey battles to contain drug smuggling from Iran

By John Owen-Davies

Reuter

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey —

Heroin bound for Western

Europe is being smuggled

across Iran's porous border

with Turkey, and narcotics ex-

perts say the amount is increas-

ing at an alarming rate.

"Heroin from Afghanistan,

Iran and Pakistan is pouring in

through Turkey," one source

said.

"Last year, 1,300 kilogram-

mes of heroin were seized in

Turkey almost triple the 1986

amount. But this is just the tip

of the iceberg. About one tenth

of what normally gets through

is seized," he said.

Officials in the southeastern

city of Diyarbakir, on a major

trafficking route to The Nether-

lands, Spain, West Germany

and other countries, say 81

kilogrammes of the drug were

confiscated here in the first two

months of 1988.

This compares with 19 kilog-

rammes seized in the whole of

last year and only four kilog-

rammes in 1986.

The sources say smuggling

operations are partly Iranian

controlled, involving some of

the estimated 1.5 million Iran-

ians who have fled to Turkey

since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolu-

tion.

Most of the heroin enters

Turkey either by road or on

mules led by Kurdish tribesmen

familiar with passes through

border mountains up to 4,700

metres high.

"The Kurds know every inch

of the terrain and control some

areas on both sides of the bor-

der," one source said.

Heroin is also routed to

Istanbul and onwards to

Europe through the southwe-

stern cities of Van and

Gaziantep.

Lucrative business

Officials say a kilogramme of

heroin has a street value of 15

million Turkish lira (\$12,500) in

Istanbul and considerably more

in Western Europe.

Sources say a new route for

heroin — from the "Golden

Triangle" in Burma, Laos and

Thailand — has opened across

the mountainous border be-

tween warring Iran and Iraq

into northern Syria and by sea

to ports in southern Cyprus.

The route borders an area of

southeastern Turkey where

Kurdish rebels, some of them

believed based in Iran, Iraq and

Syria, are fighting for auton-

omy for the country's estimated

eight million Kurds.

Official sources believe the

underground Kurdish Workers

Party (PKK), leading the in-

surgency, might be involved in

heroin smuggling, partly to

raise cash for weapons follow-

ing substantial losses in the past

year.

But some narcotics experts

rule out the possibility of such

involvement.

"This business basically is

not-terrorist orientated. People

who trade and take heroin and

other drugs tend to lose any

ideological beliefs. They are

more interested in good cars

and show girls," one source

said.

Increased heroin seizures in

Diyarbakir and the rest of Tur-

key since the beginning of last

year are put down to stepped

up undercover work and a bet-

ter drilled narcotics squad.

The Turkish police has a

narcotics squad of about 1,500

people, spread throughout

most of the country's 67 pro-

vinces.

But the narcotics experts say

lasting results can be achieved

only if action is taken to gain

better control of the inhospita-

ble 380-kilometre Turco-Iran-

ian border.

"Unless there is more border

control and cooperation from

the Iranian side, the situation

will get worse," one said.

Turkey has already started to

boost security on its side of the

border, as well as along the

Iraqi and Syrian frontiers, par-

tly to help keep PKK guerrillas

at bay.

The experts said the heroin

smuggling also posed a poten-

tial threat in Istanbul, with

the possibility of more retailers

appearing on streets.

"Before the Shah (of Iran)

was overthrown there were

100,000 heroin addicts in Iran

and over one million opium

users. Some of these people

may now be in Turkey," one

said.

Turkey, which has up to

3,000 of its own drug addicts,

was itself a big producer of

illegal heroin. But it got out of

the business in the 1970s when

trade from Iran, Afghanistan

and Pakistan flourished.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Israeli troops go on rampage, destroy Arab property

(Continued from page 1)

as they rested near the village, and two adult escorts opened fire in self-defence, killing two of the attackers.

Palestinian sources said the clash occurred only after a settler shot dead a villager who was approaching the group to talk to them.

Although initial reports said the girl was stoned to death, a later investigation revealed she was killed by a bullet from the gun of one of the escorts.

Sources told Reuter that when villagers seized the settlers' weapons, they were empty of ammunition.

"In a very tense situation filled with suspicion there can be misunderstanding," Shomron told Israel army radio Saturday.

"I simply think they did not intend to hurt (the hikers), it's a fact that in the village, even though a resident had been injured shortly before... the

youngsters, apart from the murdered girl, got out of there alive not because of rescue by military force but because some villagers did not allow them to be harmed."

Several hikers said they had been sheltered by Arab women in the village who took them into their homes and called ambulances to evacuate them.

"Do you really think that if hundreds of the villagers intended to kill them, those that opposed it would have been able to stop them?" Shomron said.

The killing provoked demonstrations and calls for reprisals from some settlers and talk of "divine vengeance" from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Troops later demolished at least 13 homes belonging to villagers suspected of taking part in the attack.

Beita, meanwhile, remained under curfew. AP photographer Laurent Reubens, who entered the village

with an army patrol Friday, said he saw some 30 to 100 villagers lined up for questioning in a schoolyard. Nearby, 10 detainees lay blindfolded on the ground.

On Thursday, the army rounded up hundreds of Beita villagers for questioning, and fatally shot a boy who they said refused orders to stop.

A petrol bomb was hurled Friday night at the Arab Jerusalem home of U.S. Consul Press Counsellor David Good, blackening the front of the house but injuring no one.

It was not clear who carried out the attack, which came at the end of a six-day visit to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz aimed at winning support for an American peace plan.

It was the first attack against a U.S.

Lebanese lira weathers worsening economic turmoil

BEIRUT (R) — The battered Lebanese lira has strengthened rapidly over the past few months despite a worsening economic crisis and persistent labour unrest.

Strikers paralysed Lebanon last week, responding to a call from the General Labour Federation to protest over price rises.

The federation says inflation hit 310 per cent in the six months to the end of March and is demanding a pay hike for the same amount backdated to January. The lira closed on March 31, the last trading day before Easter, at 363.00/364.00 to the dollar.

That was little changed during March but an appreciation of 65 per cent from an all-time low of 580/620 last Oct. 28. And when trading resumed, the lira held its gains.

Although it is still far from its level of 79 to the dollar at the start of 1987, the reasons for this confidence in an economy battered by 13 years of civil war are hard to see.

Unemployment is estimated around 35 per cent and infrastructure is in rapid decline, with roads and the telephone system in a poor state of repair and power cuts frequent.

Economists say production is well below pre-war levels because of constant interruption to work, disruption of transport and damage to facilities.

Government revenues now come only from customs duty imposed on vehicle imports and certain land taxes.

"Lebanon's economy was nev-

er developed on a proper basis and what is left of it is now disintegrating under the effect of the war," said economist Riad Khouri, who runs his own import-export business. "It is not a real economy."

Another economist said: "The basic underlying economic factors, whether on the economic level or the infrastructure of the country, have not changed. The situation is worse now than it was last year or five months ago."

But he said two psychological trends had emerged among the Lebanese people — a confidence in the lira at its current exchange rate and a willingness to hold on to it.

The key factor supporting the currency appears to be an expectation that the presidential election in August will end the war, improve Lebanon's political system and stabilise the economic status quo, one banker said.

Although no clear successor to President Amin Gemayel has emerged, bankers say the war-weary Lebanese hope the poll will end the political stalemate which has left the country without a working government for two years.

Lebanon is virtually partitioned into sectarian-based fiefdoms, ruled by militias that collect taxes and run their own ports to meet their expenses.

Renewed confidence in the Lebanese currency contrasts vividly with the picture for most of 1987 when people would rush to convert to dollars every lira not immediately needed.

Lebanon, which imports most basic necessities, was caught in a vicious circle of currency depreciation fuelling rampant price inflation, damaging confidence in the lira.

Declining confidence led the private sector to shift its cash into foreign exchange. In 1987 the proportion of bank accounts in foreign currencies rose to 85 per cent from 68 per cent in 1986 and 37 per cent in 1981.

Foreign currency reserves declined to \$334 million in 1987 from \$461 million in 1986.

But they have since climbed to around \$700 million and bankers say the central bank has taken advantage of the inflow of private funds to boost its reserves.

The central bank has also squeezed the margin between the buying and selling rates, pushing small dealers and speculators out of the market in a further step towards stability.

Other factors which bankers say have had a marginal role in boosting the lira include foreign aid in recent months from Europe, the United States, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq and income from Lebanese working abroad.

The General Labour Federation says inflation last year was 731 per cent, up from 95 per cent in 1986. It won a promise of action to stabilise the currency with a five-day strike last November but says prices have only slipped back marginally and wages are lagging behind.

Central bank sources put 1987 inflation at an estimated 400 per cent.

Some experts have advised the government to limit pay rises to 25 per cent quarterly for a year, arguing the long-term effects of the federation's demands would damage the economy.

Economist Riad Khouri said despite austerity programmes and a series of central bank measures last year to help the lira, the economic crisis would not be healed unless the political and economic infrastructure of the country was reformed.

"As long as the Lebanese people do not have an orderly and efficient socio-economic infrastructure uniting the country then whatever prosperity they may enjoy will be both temporary and the basis for chaos and poverty," he added.

OPEC panel weighs output

VIENNA (R) — Five of OPEC's main strategists met in Vienna Saturday against a backdrop of weak oil prices to consider the group's output and the impact of increasing supplies from non-OPEC producers.

The group's price committee, comprising oil ministers from Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Algeria and Venezuela, is empowered to call an extraordinary meeting of all 13 members which could cut oil production, but signals emerging by midday Saturday seemed to rule out such a gathering.

Panel members arriving Friday for the one-day session had cooled oil market speculation that there might be a crisis meeting before the next Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministerial meeting due in June which will set production levels for the second half of 1988.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Saturday April 9, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	147,499 JD	134,009	215
Top three companies:			
Bank of Jordan	1,845 JD	27,747	11
Arab Aluminium Industries	9,800 JD	17,042	18
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries	71,500 JD	15,275	37
Parallel market:	95,110 JD	75,053	—
Development bonds:	120 JD	1,236	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—

Jordanian, Egyptian officials discuss implementing projects

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting was held here Saturday to lay down an initial study for the establishment of the projected fishing company and a company for the production of lean meat.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi and a delegation representing the Jordanian-Egyptian Investment (Holding) Company.

The two sides discussed steps taken so far towards the creation of the two joint companies.

The two companies were authorised by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee, co-chaired by the prime ministers of the two countries, and entrusted to the holding company for their formation.

Lawzi discussed with the company team facilities to be offered by Ministry of Agriculture to help establish the fishing company in Aqaba and provide a suitable site for the lean meat company, both of which will be established in the Kingdom.

ACC lending declines

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) granted a total of JD 5,145,023 in loans to farmers in 1987. The funds financed 1,913 agricultural projects, according to ACC Deputy Director Burhan Sharabi.

Sharabi said that in 1986 the

ACC granted farmers loans totalling JD 5,682,638 to finance 2,169 projects. Sharabi said that the loans financed the purchase of farm equipment, building agricultural installations, increasing livestock wealth, land reclamation schemes, planting fruit trees, and irrigation schemes.

Expert tours Zarqa projects

ZARQA (J.T.) — A U.N. specialist was accompanied on a visit to Zarqa by Ministry of Planning officials to discuss plans and projects being carried out by the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber's President Ibrahim Takiyeddin briefed the specialist on the industrial and agricultural schemes that are under-

way in the governorate and plans for the development of the canning industry and for promoting the work of companies and factories which produce consumer commodities.

The U.N. specialist later toured the industrial zone of Zarqa and met with officials in charge.

Meat imports to double

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Supply officials said that plans have been made for the importation of double the quantities of meat during the coming month of Ramadan.

They said that the meat would be distributed to all butchers selling imported meat well before the beginning of the Holy Month which is due to start on April 18.

Algeria fights locust invasion

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has drawn up battle lines to combat billions of desert locusts which have invaded nearly 8,000 square kilometres of the Sahara and pose a serious threat to the country's crops.

The official news agency APS said 5,500 square kilometres were treated with pesticides by April 5. A vast locust eradication campaign is in progress in coordination with neighbouring Tunisia and Morocco.

Fighting the worst locust plague in North Africa for 30 years is an "almost superhuman task" according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome.

FAO experts say some swarms cover 400 square kilometres. One square kilometre of a swarm contains 50 million locusts capable of devouring 100,000 tonnes of vegetation in a night.

The Algerian plan comprises two lines of defences across the centre and the northern edge of the desert, each with seven anti-locust campaign centres equipped with aircraft and vehicles.

Behind the lines is the natural barrier of the Saharan Atlas mountain range, north of which are the high plateaux and coastal plains where Algeria's main crop-growing areas are located.

Some of the largest locust swarms have been annihilated, but there is still a major alert because of the danger of billions of larvae hatching soon, the agency said.

The agency said the plague was partly due "to the state of tension or even war prevailing in certain parts of Africa — the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia, the Eritrea war, the Chad conflict and guerrilla activity in southern Sudan — which have prevented if not completely halted (anti-locust) operations."

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 2, '88 and ending Wednesday, April 6, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	200	272	1.360	1.360	1.000
Petra Bank	1000	2000	2.000	2.000	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2025	3376	1.680	1.650	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	3032	4650	1.550	1.530	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	4497	5346	1.180	1.180	1.000
Housing Bank	104542	177394	1.650	1.670	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	7650	16065	2.100	2.100	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank					5.000
Bank of Jordan	13904	210565	15.150	15.000	5.000
Arab Bank	600	68264	113.750	114.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	10585	26060	2.460	2.460	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	50000	55000	1.160	1.100	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	4950	8135	1.850	1.880	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	6740	3776	0.570	0.560	1.000
National Financial Investments	300	546	1.820	1.820	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	2966	2247	0.770	0.750	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	24100	34603	1.480	1.320	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	15739	13820	0.910	0.870	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	68825	63327	0.940	1.000	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	8000	8695	1.100	1.080	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	50	66	1.200	1.220	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	15670	13907	0.820	0.840	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	122	112	0.970	0.920	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	1305	1670	1.300	1.280	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Izzah Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	3346	4423	1.330	1.320	1.000
Income for Investment and Financial Facilities	2755	1513	0.580	0.550	1.000
Danco for Housing and Investment	18490	7974	0.450	0.430	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	1900	741	0.400	0.390	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	1675	536	0.330	0.320	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	550	440	0.800	0.800	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	7500	1200	0.670	0.660	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	6350	1841	0.820	0.780	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	350	91	0.290	0.260	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	3329	4789	1.420	1.440	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	250	1010	4.050	3.950	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	1079	896	0.850	0.830	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	1925	6738	3.200	3.500	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	6000	2283	0.380	0.380	1.000
Jordan Dairy	473	474	1.000	1.000	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	10818	21156	2.010	1.880	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	59117	82660	1.380	1.400	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	356	783	2.200	2.200	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Itala)	7777	10098	1.330	1.320	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	100	413	4.250	4.100	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	114400	154503	1.350	1.360	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	19850	35256	1.780	1.760	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	1050	4463	4.250	4.250	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	—	—	—	—	1.000
Chemical Industries	5200	8551	1.660	1.630	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2600	1768	0.690	0.680	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	1942	2838	1.480	1.450	1.000
National Steel Industries	33375	90566	2.790	2.690	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	13701	22893	1.650	1.660	5.000
General Mining	50	68	1.400	1.350	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	2143	15024	7.020	7.050	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	431700	92947	0.230	0.220	1.000
National Industries	1800	900	0.500	0.500	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	5260	6695	1.290	1.250	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	9030	6863	0.770	0.760	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	6895	7939	1.150	1.160	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	1400	4194	2.820	3.000	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	18400	10786	0.590	0.580	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	18850	18669	0.980	1.000	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	22540	20049	0.890	0.890	1.000
Jordan Sulphate Chemicals	41458	102171	2.870	2.670	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	35601	37365	1.050	1.040	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	3323	3289	0.980	0.990	1.000
Grand total	1,271,459	1,517,752			

U.S. official predicts airline deregulation abroad

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government deregulation of the airlines has proved successful and is likely to continue in the United States and spread abroad, a U.S. Transportation Department official says.

It is inevitable that foreign countries, starting with those in Europe, will follow the lead of the United States in eliminating control by government of fares and route capacities, Matthew V. Scoozza told an airlines forum Friday.

Other nations will find that it is more productive to let demand instead of bureaucrats decide

how many flights a week should operate between U.S. cities and points in Europe, said Scoozza, assistant secretary of transportation for international affairs.

The United States is ready to expand U.S. traffic rights for foreign carriers on a basis of "balanced benefits," or reciprocal advantage, he said, and it does not fear the potential competition of a unified European airline.

"We have the golden egg," Scoozza said. "Seventy per cent of the people who fly have American passports."

In the deregulation process, if foreign carriers "deny us capacity

or gateway rights, we'll do the same to you," Scoozza told his audience, which included several foreign airline and embassy representatives.

But on the other hand: "We'll give you a market of a million dollars if you get us a market of a million dollars," he said.

U.S. law currently prohibits foreign airlines from carrying passengers solely between points in the United States, but Scoozza saw the possibility of some negotiated changes if advantageous tradeoffs were found abroad for U.S. carriers.

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Young English businessman would like the help of a Filipina for approx 3 hours per day, except Fridays. Duties would include usual housework etc, and some preparation of food.

Salary will be negotiated with successful applicant.

If you are interested, please send brief details and a small photo to Mr. Martin, P.O. Box 927111, Amman, Jordan.

Astros wins against Reds 8-3 in 16 innings

NEW YORK (AP) — The Houston Astros are used to long nights early Friday in the season at Riverfront stadium. They're not used to closing out an April marathon with a victory.

The Astros nearly lost, then nearly won Friday night against the Reds before finally winning 8-3 in 16 innings. They were one out from defeat when Glenn Davis hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to tie 2-2. They led 3-2 after Alan Ashby's home run in the 13th, only to see the Reds rally.

But, in the 16th, there was no stopping Houston from getting its third consecutive victory.

Reliever Larry Anderson started the winning rally with a leadoff single against Jose Rijo, the sixth Cincinnati pitcher. Rijo threw wildly to first on Gerald Young's sacrifice bunt, leaving runners at first and third. Young stole second and Billy Hatcher followed with a two-run single.

Davis got an RBI single following Hatcher's hit for a 6-3 lead. A run scoring single by Rafael Ramirez and a sacrifice fly by Ashby completed the big inning.

"Hopefully that will set a tone for the games ahead," Davis said. "It would have been tough to lose that one. I think the same thing happened to us last year, if I'm not mistaken. It would have been really tough to start all over again like that. We needed this one under our belt."

Astros 8, Reds 3:

Tom Browning took a two-hitter and a 2-0 lead into the ninth, but Davis tied it after Bill Doran singled with two out to keep the Astros alive.

Giants 5, Padres 1:

At San Francisco, Kevin Mitchell drove in three runs with a home run and single and new leadoff man Brett Butler sparked two rallies for the Giants, who kept San Diego winless in four games.

Atlanta stayed the only winless team at 0-4, despite playing all home games, as Alfredo Griffin's bases-loaded triple broke a 3-3 tie in the sixth.

Phillies 5, Mets 1:

Lance Parrish hit a two-run homer, supporting Bruce Ruffin's six-hitter. Ruffin was supposed to start Friday night, but a rainout the previous evening changed Lee Elia's plans.

Cubs 6, Expos 4:

Dave Martinez hit a grand slam in a five-run second inning for the unbeaten Cubs, who haven't started a season with three straight victories since 1969.

Pirates 4, Cardinals 3:

Before a Busch Stadium regular-season record crowd of 51,647, the Cardinals remained winless. Barry Bonds doubled twice and scored two runs and Bobby Bonilla homered, leading Pittsburgh.

Liverpool topples Forest to reach F.A. Cup final

LONDON (R) — John Aldridge, who will never replace Ian Rush in the eyes of the fans at Anfield, was the hero of the hour as Liverpool overcame Nottingham Forest to reach the Football Association (F.A.) Cup final Saturday.

Aldridge, Liverpool's premier striker since Rush joined Juventus this season, scored both goals as three times cup winners Liverpool reached the final for the eighth time.

Liverpool's opponents at Wembley May 14 will be unfashionable Wimbledon, who came from a goal behind to beat Luton Town 2-1 in the other semifinal at White Hart Lane, Tottenham.

Liverpool, chasing their second League and F.A. Cup double in three years, exacted full revenge for last Saturday's 2-1 defeat by Forest in the First Division with a typically professional display at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough ground.

They had to survive a torrid opening 10 minutes as the young Forest side swarmed around goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar in search of an early goal. But Liverpool took the lead in their first real attack in the 12th minute.

Forest defender Steve Chettle pulled down England forward John Barnes and Aldridge coolly slotted home the resultant penalty for his 24th goal of the season.

The Irishman reached the quarter-century mark after 52 minutes when he volleyed home from close range following a move involving Barnes and his England colleague Peter Beardsley.

Forest boss Brian Clough, appearing in his first F.A. Cup semifinal after 26 years as a player and manager, watched Liverpool assume total control after that but they could not convert their supremacy into a third goal.

And Liverpool found their League and Cup double hopes under threat in the 66th minute when Nigel Clough, subject of a £1.5 million transfer bid from

Maxwell plans move into Dutch soccer

AMSTERDAM (R) — British business tycoon Robert Maxwell has offered Johan Cruyff one million sterling (\$1.8) to help build Utrecht into a club capable of breaking PSV Eindhoven's domination of the Dutch Soccer League.

Cruyff's business adviser Eric Vile told Dutch television Saturday that Maxwell, who is chairman of English club Derby, had made the offer to Cruyff during talks in London Friday.

Cruyff, eager to expand the role of a soccer manager, has been reported to be interested in turning Utrecht into a real power if he turns down an offer to take over as coach of Spanish first division side Barcelona.

Former Dutch international Cruyff, 40, said Friday he was likely to sign for Barcelona next week but he has made no secret of his desire to stay in The Netherlands and run a club here.

He quit as manager of Ajax Amsterdam in January after a dispute over his contract. Officials said one of the reasons for the split was that Cruyff wanted to make more influential decisions at the club.

"A lot of work has already been done on the club (Utrecht)," Vile said. "We have talked to sponsors and it could become a reality in a month or so."

"Cruyff can decide between Barcelona and Utrecht ... but Maxwell has given us a week to sort things out and in that time it will be clear whether it is on or off."

Maxwell has been striving to expand his business interests in soccer. He recently dropped out of a deal to take control of Watford when England's soccer authorities objected to him increasing his influence in the English League.

Soccer fan stabs player

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — A player was stabbed Friday in a fight between members of Rio de Janeiro's Botafogo soccer club and jeering supporters at a training session, police said.

Fullback Ronaldo had to have five stitches in his left arm, police said. His attacker was not immediately identified and no arrest was made.

The fight started after striker Claudio Adao, tired of the taunts, went over to the stands to challenge the fans. Other players joined him and a free-for-all broke out, police said.

"As I grabbed one of the hooligans, I was attacked by another guy. I think he wanted to kill me. I put my arm in front of me and was cut," Ronaldo told Brazilian television.

Botafogo, who have not won a Rio de Janeiro Championship since 1968, have won only three out of 12 matches so far this season and are sixth in the league.

DAVIS CUP

Young Australians give hard time for French stars

CLERMONT-FERRAND, France (R) — Yannick Noah and Henri Leconte survived testing encounters against Australian Davis Cup newcomers Darren Cahill and Mark Woodforde to give France a hard-earned 2-0 lead in their world group quarter-final clash Friday.

Woodforde looked well on the way to beating Leconte to level the tie at 1-1 but the quixotic Frenchman recovered to win their marathon encounter 6-3, 7-9, 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 in just under four hours.

Cahill had given French number one Noah similarly anxious moments early in their match and emerged with credit in a 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 defeat.

Woodforde and Cahill, 22-year-olds born within nine days of one another in Adelaide, were thrust into the spotlight in the absence of Wimbledon champion Pat Cash who was with girlfriend Anne-Britt Kristiansen in Norway for the birth of their second child.

Leconte, who returned to competition last weekend after 1½ months out with a hand injury, looked in charge when he took the first set after gaining the lone service break in the eighth game.

But the left-handed Woodforde fought back tenaciously and captured the second set when he broke Leconte's service for the first time in the 16th game.

Leconte, a tantalizing mixture of brilliance and waywardness, won the first two games of the third set but lapsed again as Woodforde broke twice and won five straight games to lead 5-2.

Leconte saved three set-points to win the next game but squandered three chances of breaking back as Woodforde went a set ahead and immediately broke Leconte in the opening game of the fourth set.

But Leconte bounced back to secure the set and swept through the decider without conceding another game.

Noah took two hours and 23 minutes to overcome Cahill who was far from overpowered by his opponent's reputation.

Cahill broke Noah's service in the opening game and although the French number one broke back immediately, Cahill played the steadier tennis to win four games in a row and wrap up the set.

Noah served erratically, with aces interspersed with double faults, and Cahill punished the Frenchman's errors, volleying well and hitting crisp winners as his confidence grew.

Noah had to wait for the ninth game of the second set before achieving the crucial break, clinching a 5-4 lead when he raced to hit a great forehand pass down the line and then serving to level the match at one set-all.

Noah took the third set and finally seized command, spraying winners around the court as he raced through the final set.

"There's always a lot of pres-

ured States and Peru's Jaime Izaga, was suspended by darkness after the two players split the first 10 games. It will resume on Saturday morning prior to the scheduled doubles match.

Arraya, cheered on by an enthusiastic hometown crowd at the downtown lawn tennis club, rallied from a two-set deficit to pull even.

Berger appeared to lose some of his poise in the fourth set, as Arraya lifted the level of his game.

But Berger, who wore a brace on his right knee and appeared to be favouring the leg in the final two sets, won the last two games of the final set to take the match.

Yugoslavia and Italy tie 1-1

In Belgrade, Slobodan Zivojinovic, putting on a lively show for his home crowd, rescued Yugoslavia's Davis Cup hopes by beating Francesco Cancellotti and levelling the first day scores 1-1 in a world group quarter-final tie Friday.

Italian number one Paolo Cane had demolished baseline specialist Bruno Oresar 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 in the opening singles match but the towering Zivojinovic revived Yugoslav spirits by defeating Cancellotti 6-4, 9-7, 6-3.

Italian number one Paolo Cane had demolished baseline specialist Bruno Oresar 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 in the opening singles match but the towering Zivojinovic revived Yugoslav spirits by defeating Cancellotti 6-4, 9-7, 6-3.

He chatted casually to his pop star girlfriend in the stands and cheered himself on during the three-hour performance.

"I could have played better," Zivojinovic said. "But in the Davis Cup winning is all that matters. I had to revive our chances after Bruno's defeat and I succeeded."

Swiss well on way to avoiding relegation

In St. Gallen, Switzerland, straight sets victories by Roland Stadler and Claudio Mezzadri got Switzerland off to a flying start in their Davis Cup relegation battle against Mexico Friday.

Stadler, a university law student who says he just plays for fun, beat Mexican Leonardo Lavalle 10-8, 6-2, 6-4 while Mezzadri followed by trouncing Jorge Lozano 6-0, 11-9, 6-2.

The home team now need just one victory from Saturday's doubles or Sunday's reverse singles to hang on to their place in the world group.

Stadler, 29, who had given France's Yannick Noah a run for his money before finally succumbing in their Davis Cup match in Basle in February, was Friday again plagued by nervousness and inconsistency.

However, this time the Swiss overcame them.

It took him 84 minutes to battle his way to victory over the left-hand Lavalle in the first set, but then, thanks to his powerful serve, he took the second set 6-2 in exactly half the time and clinched the match in straight sets.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

HANDLE WITH CARE

Both vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ J 8 6
♥ A 7 4
♦ A K Q 8 2
♣ A 9 6

West would be the case if both red suits were to break 3-2, as is normal. But what if they split 4-1? See what happens if you exercise care in handling the suits.

EAST
♠ A K 7 3
♥ 9 7 5
♦ J 7 6 3
♣ K 10 7

Declarer started off by leading the ten of diamonds to the queen, then returned to hand with the nine of diamonds and made the normal play of the king from dummy.

East saw there was no point in ruffing and, rather than surrender trump control, he pitched a club.

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♦ 3♣
2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

Many players have a natural tendency to relax when a contract seems in the bag. That is a bad habit—you never know what dangers lurk in the shoals of distribution.

There are players who would pass with the South hand, which is a very marginal opening bid. However, that would be unlikely to affect the final contract, which seemed sound enough under normal circumstances.

West started with three rounds of spades, declarer ruffing the last of these. It might appear that declarer has the rest of the tricks, and that

his assets produced a huge dividend. He crossed back to hand with the king of trumps and finessed the eight of diamonds. East was helpless. He could ruff and shift to a club. But declarer would rise with the ace, enter dummy with the ace of trumps while pulling East's last heart in the process, and take two

discards on the good diamonds. Declarer would thereby limit his losers to two spades and a trump, and his delicate handling of his entries plus the unblocking plays in diamonds reaped a rich harvest.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may feel exceptionally eager and energetic today, but don't let this tendency cause you to act without thinking or you could get into trouble. A little bit of charm will go a long way in your dealings today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Let your good friends know exactly what you are trying to achieve, and they will be happy to help you. Show your appreciation to them.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20): You can accomplish a great deal today, but don't get around blowing your own horn about it. Finish up a troubling credit matter.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): If you feel you are under too much pressure, find a way to relax before you lose your temper. Be sure to drive with great care today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Don't try to renege on a promise you have made, or you'll find yourself in hot water. Be calm and reasonable with your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): A business affair has you confused, but it really isn't worth all the trouble it is causing. A co-worker can help you finish this up quickly.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): If you want to improve the efficiency

in your place of business, study your plans for flaws first. Patience and logic are your key words today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): If you run away from your responsibilities to have a good time today, you will be disappointed. Be sure you stay within your budget.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): A family friend has a difficult problem which you can help to solve, but don't fool yourself into believing that this can be done overnight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Don't be overly critical of a friend who is in an argumentative mood, as this person has problems. Be sure to drive very carefully.

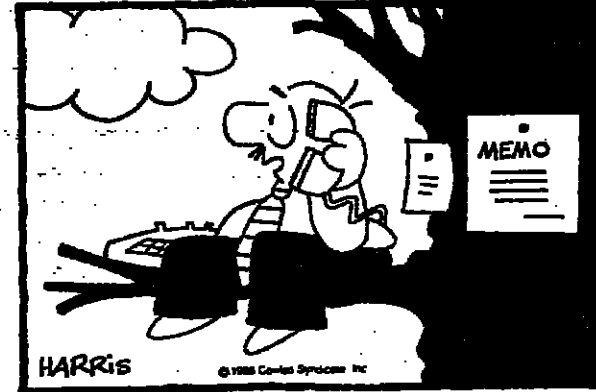
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): You will be tempted to overspend for something you desire, but that would not be wise at this time. Set up a better budget, and stick to it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): You have some excellent new ideas, but this is not the time to put them in motion. Stay around friends who are calm and poised this evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Although you feel restricted and want to get away from the daily grind, stay put and rethink your position before you get in trouble.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"You'll never guess what happened today. I was promoted to branch manager!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CATUE

GOFOR

PLUBAR

DENAIG



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

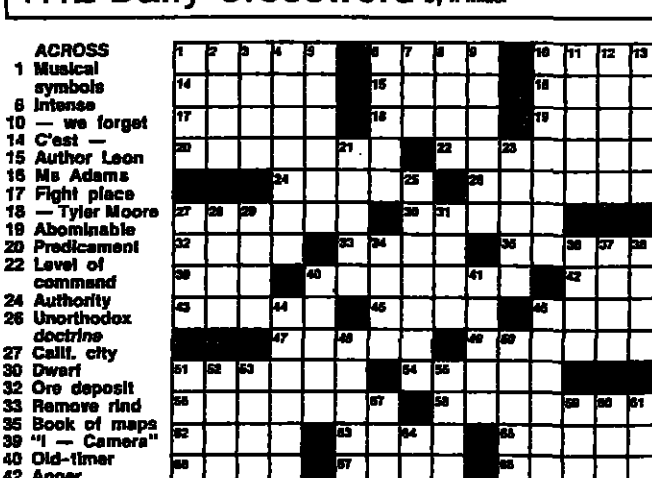
Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLAND LEAVE NOVICE RELISH

Answer: Why is an empty purse always the same?—NEVER ANY CHANGE IN IT

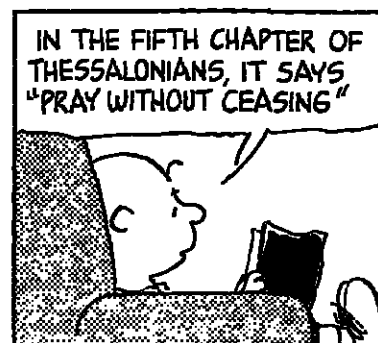
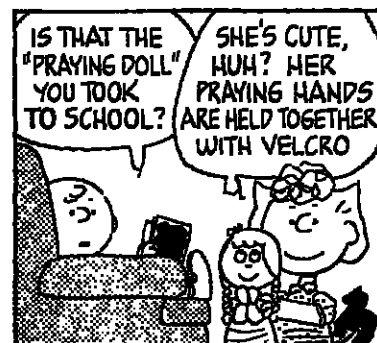
THE Daily Crossword by L. Miller



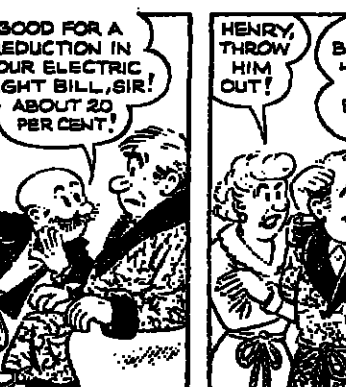
ACROSS
1 Musical symbols
8 Intense
10 — we forget
14 Cast
15 Author Leon
16 Ms Adams
17 Flight place
18 Tyler Moore
19 Abolition
20 Predicament
22 Level of command
24 Authority
26 Unorthodox doctrine
27 Call, city
30 Dwarf
32 Ore deposit
33 Remove find
35 Book of maps
39 "I — Camera"
40 Old-timer
42 Anger
43 File, city
45 Br. pirate
46 Forearm bone
47 Peruvians
48 Coach
51 Chink
54 Country on Hispania
56 Hispania
58 Stetson strip
59 Infatuated with
62 Gumbo
63 Charged particles
65 "No man is an island" poet
66 On an even —
67 Him
68 Upright
69 Biographer
70 Postcard
71 Salcher

DOWN
1 Attired
2 Goli suborder
3 Knevel
4 Skull
5 Poppy or Bluto
6 Althos' creator
7 Period
8 Shamrock
9 Shamrock
10 Hatched classic
11 Here in its first year
12 Roman judge
13 Fodder places
14 Small
15 Near-sighted one
16 Macho male
17 Hideous
18 Apartment
19 City in Italy
20 Dutch treat
21 Schmo's kin
24 Auletian
25 Island
26 Happy tune
27 Florence's river
28 Knevel
29 Caulerpa
30 "Wheel of Fortune" lady
31 Concede
32 Machine
33 Fabled animal
34 Distrusters
35 Plans pieces
36 Conger
37 Gathered leaves
38 as lovely as
39 Pheasant
40 Glue item
41 Joint
42 In the past
43 Saines
44 Sister

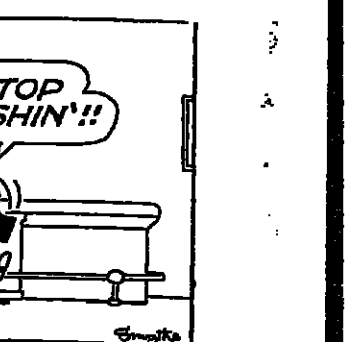
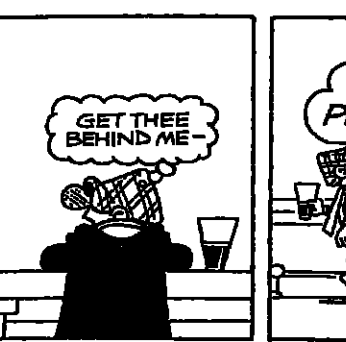
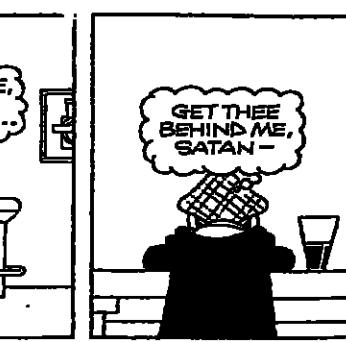
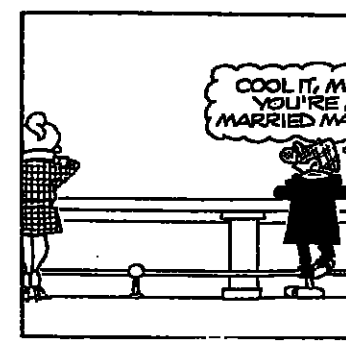
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Steps up anti-Noriega economic sanctions

U.S. conducts Panama Canal military exercises

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) — The United States has piled more pressure on Panama's military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, staging military exercises along the Panama Canal and stepping up economic sanctions against his cash-strapped government.

The war games Friday came amid repeated charges by supporters of Noriega, the country's de facto ruler, that the United States was preparing a military invasion of Panama to oust him at gunpoint.

A company of U.S. army troops, flown in by helicopter, landed at Gatun Locks at the Atlantic entrance to the Panama Canal and conducted a simulated defence operation against an enemy attack on the strategic waterway.

Passengers on cargo ships and yachts passing through the canal during the four-hour exercise saw 14 U.S. helicopters swoop down and unload 89 members of the U.S. Army Airborne Bravo Company on the west bank of the canal.

"The scenario was a threat to the locks by an armed group of people," U.S. Army spokesman Major Dan Christianson told reporters who arrived just as the exercise was ending.

It was the first exercise of its kind in the nearly 75-year history of the canal.

Christianson said the war games were required under the 1977 Panama Canal treaties, which left Washington primarily responsible for canal defence until the year 2000 when the water-

way reverts to Panamanian control. Three helicopters used in the exercise were Cobra gunships, sent to Panama earlier this week as tensions between Washington and Panama appeared to reach a new high.

Continued economic moves

In continued economic moves to oust Noriega, indicted by two U.S. grand juries on drug trafficking charges, President Reagan Friday ordered U.S. companies and citizens in Panama to suspend all tax payments to the Panamanian government.

The move makes mandatory a voluntary request by the White House last week for any U.S. companies or individuals based in Panama to deposit their tax payments in specially created U.S. bank accounts.

Previous U.S. economic sanctions and a Washington-engineered cutoff of cash to Panama has shut the country's banks and brought its economy to a standstill.

Noriega says the moves are part of a U.S. campaign to keep control over the canal. He has repeatedly accused Washington of planning to invade the country. The government's press spokesman said Friday he could

not comment on the exercises or Reagan's order not to pay taxes.

But Thursday, the head of the Panama Defence Forces (PDF) G-2 Intelligence Division repeated accusations that a military invasion was behind this week's deployment of 1,300 U.S. security troops which Washington says are only to protect U.S. installations and personnel.

"It doesn't matter" Later, economists and businessmen in Panama City studied the new U.S. economic sanctions, with one saying "it doesn't matter what the United States says."

The businessman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Reagan's order prohibiting all payments to Panama by American citizens and companies could give Noriega a reason to shut down all American businesses in Panama.

Reagan had previously warned U.S. companies to voluntarily withhold tax and other payments to Panama after several companies paid a total of \$5 million to Panama in taxes and fees.

All businesses in Panama, including U.S. firms, must pay social security taxes, workers' compensation and other taxes, according to a U.S. businessman who has been here over 15 years.

"If you do business in a country you have to obey the laws of that country," he said, on condition of not being identified.

"If you don't pay, your right to operate here can be taken away," he said. "It doesn't matter what the United States says. It's what Panama says."

Troops patrol Honduran capital after riot

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Troops and tanks patrolled the Honduran capital Saturday to enforce a state of emergency after anti-U.S. riots killed five people.

The government said it had uncovered "a vast plan of terrorist actions... to sow chaos, disorder and unrest" backed by leftist Salvadoran rebels.

It also said in radio broadcasts that drug traffickers had promoted violence.

Protests flared over the controversial expulsion of suspected drug baron Juan Ramon Mata to the United States Tuesday and over Washington's pervasive influence in Honduras.

Hundreds of troops and police, backed by half a dozen tanks, stood guard in quiet streets. Restaurants and bars, usually open into the early hours, were almost all closed Friday.

Four bombs exploded in Tegucigalpa Friday and protesters set fire to seven vehicles in the city of San Pedro Sula, 160 kilometres north of the capital, the government said.

President Jose Azcona Hoyo called a special cabinet meeting Friday and decreed a 15-day state of emergency in the two cities to try to quell the unrest. It was the first state of emergency declared in Honduras in more than a decade.

The measure followed a mob attack on the U.S. consulate Thursday night. Four people were killed by gunfire outside the consulate and another was burned to death, according to local radio and press reports.

Demonstrators said the expulsion of Mata was illegal as he is Honduran and the constitution bars extradition of Honduran nationals.

The government reported many arrests Friday, but gave no figures, and said it uncovered a cache of fire bombs at a teacher training college in Tegucigalpa.

Riot police in Tegucigalpa broke up marches to the congress and the U.S. embassy with tear gas and shots in the air.

About 40 U.S. citizens at a luxury hotel in Tegucigalpa were driven out in diplomatic cars Friday, witnesses said. A U.S. embassy official declined to say where they were taken.

One American was beaten up in the street and foreign reporters were threatened by demonstrators.

The U.S. government advised its citizens against travelling to Honduras.

Chinese premier Li Peng assumes formal office

PEKING (AP) — Acting Premier Li Peng, a Moscow-educated technocrat who has been trying to shake off his label of being a conservative, was approved as premier Saturday by China's legislature, the National People's Congress.

Here is a profile of the Chinese premier:

Premier Li Peng, who held the top government post on an acting basis for five months, has used that time to try to develop his own style of leadership and shake off his label as a conservative.

Li, an electrical engineer by training, tends to be stiff in public and lacks the charisma of his predecessor, Communist Party Chief Zhao Ziyang.

Li formerly headed the education and power ministries. Although he is well connected — he is the adopted son of China's most beloved Communist leader, the late premier Chou En-Lai — Li is not believed to have a personal power base in the central government.

Therefore, he has moved slowly, feeling his way in his new job without making any sudden changes. The reorganisation of government ministries approved by the National People's Congress Saturday was suggested before he became acting premier, although he undoubtedly has played a large role in working out details of the shakeup.

Li has tried without success to shake off his label as a conservative, based in part on his six years of study in the Soviet Union. He is believed to favour a slower pace of change than Zhao in China's campaign to streamline the bureaucracy and introduce market-oriented economic reforms.

Li was born in Chengdu, in southwest China's Sichuan province, in 1928. His father was killed by nationalist soldiers during China's civil war when Li was 3, and he was adopted by Chou En-Lai.

He spent his teen-age years at Communist Party headquarters in Yenan, from where Mao Tse-tung and Chou directed the Communists' fight against the nationalists. He joined the party at age 17.

From 1948 to 1954 he studied at the Hydropower Department of the Moscow Electrodynamics Academy, where he became fluent in Russian.

After returning home, he held a series of important engineering posts, including that of chief engineer of China's largest hydroelectric complex.

In 1978, Li was promoted to full membership in the Party Central Committee, and in 1979 became head of the Power Industry Ministry. He became vice premier in 1983 and education minister in 1985. The same year, con-

tinuing his climb up the party hierarchy, he became a member of the Politburo and Secretariat.

He was made a member of the top party decision-making body, the five-member Politburo Standing Committee, at a party congress last fall.

Weeks later, he was appointed acting premier to replace Zhao, who resigned to take up the leadership of the Communist Party.

ANC blames S. Africa for Maputo bomb

MAPUTO, Mozambique (Agencies) — The African National Congress (ANC) blamed South Africa Friday for a car bomb that severely injured an ANC member who worked as a lawyer for the Mozambican Justice Ministry.

"There is no doubt" that Thursday's attempt on the life of Albie Sachs "is the work of the South African regime," said Kingsley Xuma, chief representative of the ANC in Mozambique. Sachs, a 53-year-old white lawyer, left South Africa in the 1960s after defending several prominent ANC leaders, and being detained without charge and restricted himself.

A bomb exploded under his car Thursday morning as he opened the door in front of his apartment building in downtown Maputo. His right hand was severed from his arm, and he suffered eye, liver and lung damage, according to hospital sources quoted by the national news agency, AIM.

Detentions in September case

In other developments, in Paris police freed five leftists detained in connection with the killing of an ANC official, and anti-apartheid campaigners accused France of trying to cover up Pretoria's alleged role in the murder.

James Stuart, a member of the ANC Executive Committee, told Reuters the detentions were an attempt by France to protect those really responsible for the murder of the group's Paris representative last month.

Eddie joins Loony Party

PAIGNTON, England (AP) — Britain's famed Olympic loser Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards went to the zoo Friday but saw mostly creatures of a political nature. Edwards, who came in last in the Calgary Olympics ski-jumping, was met by officials of the monster raving Loony Party during his visit to the city zoo in this seaport in southwest England. Edwards had come to help name the zoo's new eagle after himself, but ended up becoming the fringe party's "Minister for Butter Mountains." The party, long a fixture on the British political scene, was founded by a pop singer to poke fun at politicians. Its platforms rarely make sense, but its candidates usually garner a few hundred votes in parliamentary elections. "They told me they wanted to turn all Europe's butter mountains into ski-slopes," said Eddie. The party has talked of using Europe's surplus butter stores for recreational purposes.

Psychopath dies

BOMBAY (AP) — Raman Raghav, a psychopathic killer who confessed to murdering at least 42 people with an iron bar during the 1960s, has died of a kidney ailment after nearly 20 years in prison, police said Friday. Raghav, 63, died Thursday in a hospital in Poona, 125 kilometres southeast of Bombay. He had been in Yervada jail in Poona since 1968, when he was found mentally deranged and unfit to stand trial. He spent 16 years in solitary confinement. Police Inspector Keshav Sahasrabudhe, who helped track down Raghav before his arrest in August 1968, said Friday that Raghav killed most of his victims while they slept, hitting them with a bent iron bar. Sahasrabudhe said three of the victims were women and one was a 6-month-old baby. The United News of India said Raghav confessed to at least 42 murders before a magistrate in Bombay and its suburbs in 1962-1968 set off widespread fear and panic.

Bye, bye, Jimmy

SPRINGFIELD, Missouri (R) — Television evangelist Jimmy Swaggart was defrocked Friday by the national leaders of the Assemblies of God, seven weeks after he confessed to "moral failure" over alleged involvement with a prostitute. Church spokeswoman Julieen Turnage said the elders at the church headquarters here received a written response from Swaggart stating that he would not accept a one-year preaching ban, which national leaders had insisted on as penance for his conduct. After a two-hour meeting, she said church elders "had no choice but to dismiss Jimmy Swaggart from the Assemblies of God." On Feb. 21, Swaggart tearfully confessed to his congregation he had sinned and "committed a moral failure." Earlier, rival defrocked evangelist Marvin Gorman gave church elders photographs of Swaggart and a prostitute leaving a New Orleans motel. A woman who claimed to be the prostitute said she posed in pornographic poses for Swaggart.

No pain

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet psychotherapist hypnotised a woman by television from a studio 800 kilometres away to help her overcome an allergy to anaesthetics and undergo surgery. A Soviet newspaper said Saturday. The trade union daily Trud said 39-year-old nurse Lyubov Grabovskaya turned to Anatoly Kashpirovsky as her only hope of having an operation to remove a growth from her breast because she was allergic to anaesthetics. It said she went into a hospital in Kiev and Kashpirovsky spoke to her on a television link-up from Moscow on March 31. Kashpirovsky told her to look at him, close her eyes and assured her she would feel no pain. Surgeons removed the growth, and when Kashpirovsky woke Grabovskaya up, she said she had felt the scalpel inside her but experienced no pain. The operation was a success, and Grabovskaya left hospital the next day. Trud said it said Kashpirovsky, 50, had cured thousands of people of ailments such as asthma, alcoholism, stuttering and migraines.

Nofziger becomes first Reagan insider sentenced to prison

By Peter Szekely
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Former presidential aide Lyn Nofziger became the first Reagan White House insider sentenced to prison in the various ethics investigations and personal controversies that have touched Reagan's administration.

Nofziger, 63, was ordered Friday to serve 90 days of a six-to-24-month prison sentence and pay a \$30,000 fine for illegally trying to influence government officials after he left the White House as political director in 1982.

The longtime friend and confidant of President Reagan, who opened a Washington lobbying business after leaving the administration, was also placed on two years probation.

He was the first person convicted under the 1978 Ethics in Government Act, which bars existing administration officials from lobbying their former colleagues within a year of leaving office. He could have received six years in prison.

Nofziger, who remains free on bond pending an appeal of his federal ethics law conviction, is one of several Reagan associates embroiled in recent scandal problems and the first to draw a prison sentence.

Other Reagan associates with legal troubles include:

— Attorney General Edwin Meese, who is being investigated about his professional conduct and personal finances. Special Prosecutor James McKay, who also prosecuted Nofziger, recently said he has found no evidence against Meese to warrant bringing charges, but the probe is still open.

— Former deputy White House chief of staff Michael Deaver, who was convicted last December of lying under oath during a probe of possible ethics law violations. Deaver has yet to be sentenced and his conviction may be voided if the Supreme Court upholds a ruling that declared unconstitutional the law under which the Deaver independent prosecutor was appointed.

— Former White House national security aides Oliver North and John Poindexter, who were charged last month with criminal violations stemming from the Iran-contra arms scandal in which arms were secretly sold to Iran and the proceeds diverted to the Nicaraguan contras. Their trial date has yet to be set.

Nofziger was convicted on Feb. 11 on three of four counts accusing him of seeking to influence top Reagan administration officials on behalf of his clients. Although defence attorneys

argued for leniency, special prosecutor Mc Kay requested a prison term as a deterrent to future would-be violators and because Nofziger had shown "a total lack of remorse or contrition," about violating the act.

Before the sentence was passed, the stocky Nofziger, wearing a greyish business suit with his tie slightly loosened, declared to the packed courtroom that "I am an honourable man" and refused to admit he had done wrong.

He later told reporters outside the courthouse that he believes Mc Kay singled him out for prosecution.

"I think the independent counsel set out to get me... because I would not put a plea, because I was not remorseful," Nofziger said outside the courthouse.

"I still don't think I broke any laws," he added.

By Mimi Mann
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Foreign archaeological expeditions are facing closer scrutiny these days from Egyptologists in the host nation.

It is the latest twist in a long-simmering controversy over the role of outsiders in unearthing Egypt's past.

The development highlights the uncertainties over foreign expeditions in Egypt. Europeans controlled Egyptian archaeology as late as 1952, when Gamal Abdul Nasser overthrew the monarchy in a wave of nationalism and ended such vestiges of colonialism.

"This isn't the 1800s, when you had strongmen and hackers rampaging to find treasures," said Zahi Hawass, director general of the pyramids area and archaeological adviser to Egypt's culture minister.

"This is the 20th century. We must have scholars, university people, Egyptologists, working in Egypt. We can't have adventurers, people who take archaeology as a hobby."

At its meeting in late March, the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation's 70-member standing committee exercised its veto and rejected eight project requests, including some continuing projects up for their annual review.

Two were highly publicised expeditions from France and Japan that have sought hidden chambers inside the Great Pyramid of Cheops for 1½ years.

A project from the University of Minnesota in the United States was among the other six rejects. Hawass said that refusal was because "two objects had been borrowed for analysis and not returned."

He said only 21 "respected" expeditions passed the standing committee's muster, including ones from the United States, Britain, Poland, Czechoslovakia, West Germany and Austria. In

previous seasons 70 or more projects were approved, few rejected.

Egyptology first

"We have seen a period in which scientific gadgets were used without proper supervision by Egyptologists. That day has ended," Hawass said.

He said sophisticated instruments are worthless on a site without applied Egyptological knowledge. "High technology must assist Egyptology, not vice versa," he said.

Controversy about foreign involvement with Egyptian antiquities has seethed for years, but it reached new heights with the French, then the Japanese, expeditions at Cheops' Pyramid in late 1986 and early 1987.

Both teams used high-technology equipment for searches inside the pyramid, built by Pharaoh Cheops 4,600 years ago on Giza Plateau.

The French bored three small holes into a huge wallstone of a passageway in the heart of Cheops that they thought hid a chamber. A few months later, the Japanese used what they called

"non-destructive" instruments to scan the pyramid. Their proposal for this year was to open a cavity in front of the Sphinx, where they said their instruments had detected metal.

Egypt's national press decried the possibility that the French work might cause the pyramid to fall. Archaeologists called that nonsense, but many were severely critical of both expeditions' methods.

The uproar became so strident that a year ago, former antiquities chairman Ahmed Kadry told the Associated Press he was halting all high-technology archaeology on Giza Plateau. He changed his mind the next day.

Kadry had been under fire for his strong support of such projects, which his detractors described as media events. He finally lost his job last February over alleged neglect of the Sphinx.

"I believe that archaeology in Egypt needs scientific development and high technology, but we have been attacked severely with (charges of) imperialism and colonialism," Kadry said in March, 1987.

"The work inside the pyramids

has revived this feeling. We must calm it down. It's not good to provoke the people, not even for the sake of scientific research."

Making the monuments look silly

The furor over what the French and Japanese did or didn't do to Cheops' Pyramid died down, but the debate over whether the Antiquities Organisation under Kadry surrendered Egypt's heritage to "publicity-seeking foreigners" refused to disappear.

Hawass said the French project, funded by that country's foreign ministry and the French electric company Electricite de France, was curtailed "because the purpose of the mission remains unclear."

He said when the French were drilling into the pyramid, "no one tried to discuss why. We know there are no treasures inside Cheops Pyramid, and we can expect spaces for structural reasons."

"There was no danger to the pyramid itself, but the promoters used the chance partially for publicity's sake. This kind of work makes the monuments look



The Sphinx watches over the Great Pyramids in Egypt's Giza Plateau (File photo)

Black MP says Britain invented racism

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Britain "invented racism" and was forced to accept blacks in politics only because they demanded their rights, the first black woman elected to the British Parliament said in a speech.

In an address to the 12th annual conference of the National Council for Black Studies, Diane Abbott said Friday night that she was told blacks were "distinctly unelectable" and received little support from whites during her campaign.

Before her election to the House of Commons in 1987, the Cambridge-educated politician was accused of anti-Semitism and of supporting only the interests of blacks and women, she said.

Even colleagues in her own party, the Socialist Labour Party, were not willing to support her against a white incumbent, she said.

"It is a common fallacy among Americans to believe Europeans are nicer than Americans and more liberal than Americans," she said.

"Far from Britain being a nicer and more liberal society, the British invented racism. They built an empire on which racism was the organising principle. I believe Britain is one of the most fundamentally racist nations on earth."

Abbott was "smeared" as an anti-Semite, she said, after refus-

ing requests by Britain's Jewish community to denounce American Louis Farrakhan, the controversial leader of the Nation of Islam, who has called Judaism a "gutter religion."

"I said I wouldn't denounce him because once you, as a black politician, start jumping through hoops for people it never stops," she said to an applauding crowd of about 150.

A child of working class immigrants from Jamaica, she has prevailed because of her belief in her roots, she said.

"I believe in black people. I believe in our beauty. I believe in our strength. I believe in our potential. My career has been about that."

She also has prevailed, she said, because the Labour Party has needed the black vote.

"Nobody could have guessed that (this) black girl... would have gone on to take her seat in the Mother of Parliament, in the heart of empire, in the heart of darkness, in the belly of the beast..." she said. "We put black representation on the agenda."

The conference, sponsored by three Pennsylvania universities, aims to develop ways to allow others to see the world from an African perspective, according to Kariamu Welsh, assistant professor of African Studies at Temple University.